

YourSport

ROUND-UP OF LOCAL SPORT

Hook

LINE AND SINKER

Ban is working wonders, says angling chief

BIRMINGHAM Anglers Association boss John Williams is hailing the success of the club's policy to ban the removal of any fish from its waters.

The country's biggest angling association quite legally took things into its own hands after it decided the Environment Agency bylaws introduced in 2009 did not go far enough to protect fishery owners.

John said: "Since we extended our rules to a complete blanket ban, there is no grey area and that makes policing of our waters far easier.

"Anyone who does think about taking fish now knows that our bailiffs will push for prosecution every time."

John added that since this no-nonsense approach was introduced, they have not had a single report of poaching or fish theft.

■ **WOODLAND View Fishery** is holding a free fishing day for beginners as part of the National Fishing Month scheme.

All equipment will be provided by Club Korum on the August 11 event and tuition will be available from qualified angling coaches. Find out more at www.woodlandviewfishery.co.uk.

■ **MIDLAND** Angling celebrities Des Taylor and Dave Harrell were among a number of luminaries involved in the launch of a new 'Action On Cormorants' campaign aimed at alerting MPs to the damage being caused to fishery stocks.

The brainchild of the Angling Trust, the sport's governing body, the aim is to get cormorants and goosanders placed on to the 'general licence' list, meaning that they can be controlled in the same way as birds like rooks and magpies wherever they are deemed to be a threat to other wildlife.

■ **THIS Saturday** sees Solihull's Barston Lakes play host to the Kamasan British Open, when the best performing open match anglers in the land go head-to-head for a coveted trophy and £1,000 winner's cheque.

■ **DOWNPOURS** have kept a tinge of colour in the rivers and that's generally meant fish have been willing to feed in daylight.

On the River Severn, 30lb-plus was needed to get into the top three in the Bridgnorth AS match won by Jez Williams.

In Saturday's 68-peg Shakespeare Championships qualifier, Chris Smith caught a winning 11-11-0 haul from peg 6.

Click on www.total-fishing.com to join the UK's No1 online angling community.
GARETH PURNELL

BRADLEY WANTS TO BE THE FALLS GUY..

SWIMMING
By Gregg Evans

SUTTON Coldfield swimming sensation Bradley Lynch is gunning for glory in the first ever World Junior Open Water Swimming Championships later this month.

The 16-year-old star will make history when he represents Great Britain in the 5km race at Niagara Falls, Canada, on August 17 and is determined to make the most of his eagerly-anticipated appearance.

Lynch, who only made his GB debut last month, has extra motivation to succeed after unfortunately missing out on a gold medal in the European Championships earlier this month.

Racing against the top European swimmers in his age group, the Boldmere Swimming Club ace was leading the pack until diverting off course in Kocaeli, Turkey, which proved to be a costly error.

All his hard work was undone as he slipped down to 14th place with less than half of the race to complete. However somehow he clawed back the deficit and finished as runner-up.

His rapid development, which has been aided by the elite City of Birmingham SC, suggests that he is set for big things although the talented teen is simply taking it all in his stride.

"Getting the chance to swim for Great Britain in the World Championships is very exciting and I can't wait for it to come around now," the Bishop Vesey sixth former said.

"I'm not nervous about it yet but maybe I will be when I get out there.

"I'm not too good with nerves and just before the European Championships I thought that might be my downfall.



Bradley Lynch with his European Open Water Championships silver medal.

head down and swimming but I ended up going off course.

"I lost 43 seconds and dropped from 1st to 14th but I still managed to finish second.

"There's absolutely no doubt in my mind that I would have won had I not gone off course."

Despite throwing away the lead, Lynch's silver medal was deemed a big success as he finished just behind Marc-Antoine Olivier of France (1.01.42) in 1.02.00.

Mark Perry, Open Water and Development Coach was impressed with the performance which followed hot on the heels of a 12th place finish in the European Cup Open Water 10km – an

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I started swimming when I was six but it was only when I joined Boldmere a few years ago that I started to take it seriously

open age race that included Olympic silver medalist David Davies.

Lynch, who trains with coach Carl Grosvenor six days a week, has also been triumphant in the pool as well as the open water of late.

In the National Youth Championships he won gold in the 200m freestyle and bronze in the 400m freestyle to further highlight his incredible potential.

With two or three years still left to develop, at present his best event is still unknown but what is set in stone is his remarkable rise in recent years.

"I started swimming when I was six but it was only when I joined Boldmere SC a few years ago that I started to take it seriously," he added.

"Now I can't get enough of it and I'm really looking forward to seeing what the future holds."

■ **To follow Lynch's progress visit:** www.boldmereswimmingclub.co.uk.



David Davies.

"I have to admit I wasn't expecting to get anything out of the race because I was so nervous.

"But on the second lap of the four-lap circuit I noticed that I was leading and was quite far

ahead. I then started to think that I had a really good chance because I was feeling good.

"But on the third lap it all went wrong as I went the wrong way while those behind me carried on the right way.

"I just focused on keeping my

READ ALAN TOWE'S DARTS DIARY



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