
SEND NATURE TRAILS

FISHING LAKES

WHAT ARE THEY?

Four man-made lakes, used for fishing. They range from the 7.6 acre Cobbetts Lake down to Powells Pool at 1.5 acres.

WHERE ARE THEY?

In a triangle of land between the Cartbridge end of Send Road, Potters Lane and the footpath which runs between Potters Lane and Sandy Lane.

HOW CAN I ACCESS THEM?

Full access is only open to members of the Woking and District Angling Association. However, many houses in Send Road, Potters Lane and Briar Road have views out over the lakes, and they can be seen from the footpaths which run between and alongside them. Walk down the track near the New Inn end of Potters Lane by the Parish Council noticeboard to find the footpath which runs between the lakes.

WHAT'S THEIR HISTORY?

Three of the lakes are flooded pits from sand extraction for local building and the A3. The fourth and smallest lake was excavated in 1992 and also formed part of the lake known as Langmans. During World War II they were used for amphibious vehicle training and the tank traps can still be seen in Sandersons lake during the hot summers. They are now owned by Woking and District Angling Association and used for leisure and match fishing - see www.wadaa.co.uk for further information

WHAT MIGHT I SEE THERE?

Fish

Carp, bream, tench, roach, rudd and pike. Along with catfish, perch and true crucian carp.

Birds

WDAA have installed numerous bird boxes and are keen to assist the local avian population. Birds of the air you might spot include nuthatches, woodpeckers, numerous finches and tits, kestrels and sparrow hawks. Water birds are numerous and include mallards, tufted duck, teal, and the visiting Mandarin ducks and Canada geese, with their distinctive face markings, which are often regarded as a pest now. Coots and moorhens will graze in local gardens and nest on the water's edge. Kingfisher can be seen on perches over the water or flashing across in flight, blue and green with cinnamon breast. They nest in holes in the banks. There are also great crested grebes, birds which almost became extinct when their cheek tufts were much sought-after for decorating ladies' hats. Local residents have been known to look after orphaned grebe by feeding them tasty morsels. Pike and catfish are their natural enemies. In their turn, the European grey heron, which stand up in the water and cormorants - black, primeval looking birds - attack the fish. Goosander arrive in winter.

Even as night falls there is still activity in the air with tawny owls and hundreds of bats that can be seen swooping and diving for the insects over the water.

Trees and Plants

Woking DAA are committed to maintaining a healthy population of trees for wildlife cover and habitat. Trees include birch, oak, poplar, beech and water side willows.

Other plants you will notice throughout the season are native bluebells, honeysuckle and sweet peas, all growing wild. There are many other plants and flowers growing wild as part of the natural environment, and those are left to their own devices to bloom and multiply as nature intended.