

FRESHWATER FISH

Alan Rowland and Jennifer George



▲ Golden Orfe in Quarry Pond (photo: Alan Rowland)

Sightings of freshwater fish were down on last year with records from Rocket Pole Pond and Quarry Pond as usual. Only four sightings were made. Golden Orfe *Leuciscus idus* were confirmed as still present in Quarry Pond with a low of three in February increasing to 15 in September 21 as reported by Dave and Chris Clifton and Kevin and Val Waterfall. One of the three fish reported in February was noted as 'dark'. Golden Orfe juvenile and adult are the distinctive golden colour, whereas Crucian Carp *Carassius carassius* are seen to be quite blue when viewed from above in water, and this is undoubtedly what the 'dark' fish was.

Kevin and Val also recorded sightings of 10 Mirror Carp *Cyprinus carpio* of varying sizes in Rocket Pole Pond in September.

More sightings and a structured survey of these two ponds and Pondsburry is needed to more accurately record numbers and species. Until a full fish survey can be attempted it would be helpful if both Staff and Visitors record the fish seen, their numbers and sizes, and the location and date of observation in the LFS Log Book, together with any photographs.



▲ Mirror Carp (photo: Jennifer George).