



NEW ADAA FISHINGS FOR 2012!

There is good news for ADAA members with the announcement that the Association has been successful in leasing the Balbithan and Torryburn fishing's on the Don for the 2012 season.

The fishings extend on the north bank from above the metal bridge at Kintore and joins the existing upper Fintray Association water, with its parking area at Boat of Hatton and on the south from Tuach Burn for approx. 2.2 miles downstream. The rules will be as Lower Parkhill except no Sunday fishing.

Further details are on the ADAA website, including a map. www.adaa.org.uk Please feel free to tell potential members that you know may be thinking of joining the ADAA especially as the initial joining fee can now be paid up over 2 years.

ANNUAL ADAA OUTING

The ADAA annual outing/competition will be held at Loch Leven on 15th July 2012 10.00am – 6.00pm and not as advertised in the ADAA diary. There are 12 places available on a first come first serve bases and full payment will be require at the time of booking. **Contact Kenny Riddell on 07525126799 to book your place.**

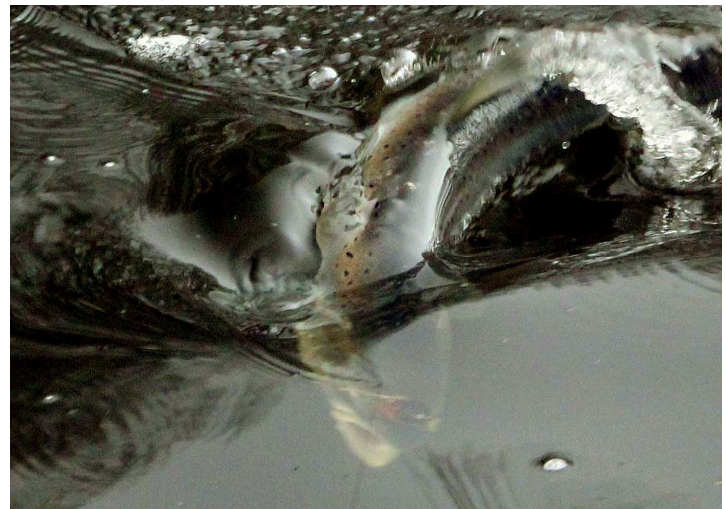
AUTHOR IN OUR MIDST!

The ADAA has an author in its midst! Some of you may know John Walker who fishes Parkhill with his split cane rod and home tied flies.

Well John, who has fished Parkhill for over 50 years, has put pen to paper and published a journal of his reminisces of fishing Parkhill over the last 50 years called Dry Fly Memories! All the details on the book and how you can purchase it are on the website

ORVIS DAY AT THE BOTHY

To be held on Sunday June 10th - 10am onwards. With Scott McKenzie and Ben Dixon. Also fly tying in the bothy and Usual refreshments



COMPETITIONS PROGRAM 2012

Please be aware that the competitions program dates and venues printed in the 2012 diary are all incorrect. Please view the revised 2012 competitions program from the ADAA web site at www.adaa.org.uk and go to competitions tab where you can print them off.

REPLACEMENT LAND ROVER. (NEW LANDY)

Our Land Rover, which we bought nearly new in 1999, is now 13 years old. It has served us well but is getting on a bit, and over the last couple of years there have been several breakdowns that have disrupted our works programme and also incurred several expensive repair bills.

After much debate, and investigating alternative vehicle makes and types, the Committee decided that the modern version of the Land Rover Defender 110 is the best vehicle for our purpose.

The new vehicle should be available around February 2012 and hopefully will keep us going for the next 13 or so years.

. ADAA JUNIOR DAY

Sunday 19th August, CHAP Quarry Fishery, Drumoak, with Ben Dixon of Orvis. Along with hints and tips from the winning ADAA competition team, 10 am onwards. All juniors, minors and friends invited. BBQ and refreshments on the day. Special thanks to CHAP for allowing us to use their fishery and to Orvis for all their help this year. **Tel: 01569 730198, Stuart and Julia to book.**

YTHAN TRUST FORMED

The river Ythan Trust was formally created in the early months of 2010 by a group of people, including anglers and others with an interest in the river generally.

The River Ythan Trust will promote effective management to protect and enhance the fish, fishery, aquatic and riparian habitat, indigenous wildlife, and the natural environment of the River Ythan Catchment.

One of its first objectives is the development of a Fishery Management Plan (FMP) since this the document upon which all future action is based. Further details and information can be obtained from the website at www.riverythantrust.org

ADAA BROWN TROUT STOCKING

The ADAA committee after lengthy debate have reached a decision not to stock brown trout at any of our waters in the foreseeable future. According to scientific evidence and other information we have at hand, it would appear that the River Don has a very healthy population of native brown trout with all of the River Don tributaries also healthy with good numbers of fish.

We have also increased the amount of fishing available to the ADAA members with the additions of Balbithan, Torryburn and the Stonewood fishing's where there is good evidence of some great brown trout trophies waiting to be caught. Please remember that the ADAA have a policy in place that requires each and every angler to submit a catch return on each and every fish caught on ADAA waters, this return includes all fish kept or returned. Your return should be submitted within 48 hours on the ADAA returns telephone number 01569-731949, make it easy by putting the number into your mobile phone. **Remember it is a disciplinary offence not to report your catch!**

ADAA SUNDAY BROWN TROUT FISHING

The Committee has received positive feedback from members regarding Sunday fishing for brown trout on its River Don waters. There are many advantage of Sunday fishing, one is that many of our members work 6 days a week and can only manage out on a Sunday. Sunday fishing may also deter poachers, an issue the ADAA fishing's are well aware of. Season 2012 will be even better as our entire river Don Fishing's will be available for Sunday fishing for brown trout. There are some exceptions as in Lower Parkhill "North Bank" and the Balbithan & Torryburn fishing's from Upper Fintray to Kintore, but the new Stonewood Fishing's are included. Please familiarise yourself with the ADAA rules before you go out fishing and look out for waters being closed for competitions

BIG YTHAN SALMON

Nicky Taylor, one of our members, has fished the Ythan for just over thirty years since the age of 10; during that period he has caught several hundred Ythan salmon, but not of the size described below.

Saturday 29th October 2011 was to prove a red letter day for Nicky. Around 10.30 Nicky cast his 11cm black and gold floating Rapala across the river just above Garland's Dyke. Suddenly the lure stopped abruptly. After around 25 minutes, the big fish was brought to the side and lifted out by Craig, not an easy task at Ardlethen, since due to the nature of the banks there is no place to beach a fish. The fish, a large coloured cock salmon was measured at 44ins, long, with a girth of 22 ins. and an estimated weight of around 32 lbs.

The fish was quickly returned to the water, but proved to be quite weak after the long fight. However Nicky and Craig persevered in their determination that it should be returned, and held it in the burn at the steel footbridge for over an hour until they had the satisfaction of seeing it successfully swim off.

Nicky's salmon is possibly the largest landed on the Ythan since the late 1960's.

Around 1968, Mr Eddie Ewen landed a 36lb fish on the Ellon Castle water at the Slow Pool near the Meadows Sports Centre, Ellon. A photo of this fish with the successful angler can still be seen today in the lounge of the Ythan View Hotel, Methlick.

Interestingly, the largest Ythan rod caught salmon I am aware of, was also caught at Garland's Dyke (then called Ardlethen Dyke) by Dr Andrew Fowler, G.P. of Ellon, in high water conditions, in 1892. The fish was 45ins. long with an exceptionally large girth of 28 ins. and weighed 44.5 lbs.

Another big fish was found dead in the river in January 1895; it weighed 52 lbs. and would have been several pounds heavier when it left the sea. The skin was preserved and stretched over a timber fish shaped form to create a model of the fish. The model was recently rediscovered by Haddo Estate and they investigated its possible refurbishment, but unfortunately it was found to be beyond repair.

PS Nicky's big fish turned out to be a springer, 2 years in the river as a juvenile, 3 winters in the sea, no growth following its last sea winter, scales heavily eroded, which means it had been in the river a long time. Also interesting - of the 45 salmon scales submitted, 3 were from springers.