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A Tale of 2 Seasons

The past 2 seasons have been a complete contrast to each other and has shown that without any doubt the prevailing weather very much affects our sport.

In 2018 we experienced a very prolonged dry spell which saw rivers at their lowest ever levels at times. On the Dee, this worked to the advantage of members as fresh fish were still coming off the tides but were unable to make much progress upriver. Anglers fishing at Culter saw a large build-up of salmon and grilse from June onwards and some first-class sport was enjoyed. However, on the Don and Ythan it was a completely different story. The low water saw very poor runs of fish entering the Don and salmon/grilse catches were at an all-time low. On the Ythan it was a similar tale to the Dee with fish coming off the tides but stacking up in the Ellon area but unfortunately, not into our beats further upriver.

2019 couldn't have been more different. Consistent high-water levels on the Dee saw fish quickly swimming upriver with no build up at Culter or Banchory Devenick/Garthdee. Catches in 2019 were well down compared to the season before. On the Don however, it was a different story altogether with good numbers

of salmon and grilse coming into the river from June onwards. Some members were catching more than one fish per outing but once again, as on the whole of Donside and not just on ADAA beats, there was a severe lack of anglers out on the river. As you will be aware, the River Don is currently a Category 3 river meaning compulsory catch and release applies. If catches could be improved, we could possibly see a change of category come time. That is also a reason why all fish caught should be reported. Rumours are heard that some members are not reporting their catches, but this practice does no-one any favours if true, as the more fish recorded the better.

The Ythan saw more fish upriver from Ellon this year, particularly sea trout and finnock. Some beats fared better than others but on the whole, returns seemed to be healthy enough. Unfortunately, salmon numbers on the Ythan remain low and there were very few recorded from our beats.

Away from the seasons and catch returns

At long last the AWPR crossing over the Don was completed in 2019. For the past 4 seasons this has disrupted fishing at Upper Parkhill. >>

Despite the bridge being finished, we are still having arguments about easy access up river due to new fencing being erected. We are also currently fighting a claim for compensation due to all the disruption and financial loss that we have suffered during this period of construction.

Anglers fishing the North bank at Upper Parkhill will have noticed that the bridge over the Goyal Burn was replaced during the season. The old bridge was in very poor condition and becoming unsafe. Thanks to the efforts of a small gang of volunteers assisting Stuart Fleming, our works contractor, the job was complete within 1 week and the new bridge is now much stronger and safer for all to use.

Dogs at Upper Parkhill have been a continuing problem again in 2019. Professional dog walkers who can be walking several dogs at a time have discovered it's a nice walk from the Streams car park round to Cockers Pool but unfortunately not all of them have been clearing the mess left behind by the dogs. Complaints were made to the City Dog Wardens who spoke to most of them and things have improved, but we need to keep a watch that things don't revert to what they were before.

On the Stillwater scene, members have been complaining about conditions at Loirston Loch for some years due to the serious weed growth making it difficult to fish. Historically, the weed had been controlled by use of herbicides, but the use of chemical was outlawed by SEPA and the condition of the loch has gradually deteriorated as a result. Plans to get a specialist contractor to cut the

weed fell through when a dispute arose over ownership of the cutting machine. Nothing we could do about it as the machine was simply not available as had been arranged.

As many of you will know, there are plans in hand for a major development surrounding the Loch and work is due to start in the spring of 2020 although some preparatory work has already begun. Although there will be a buffer strip, only time will tell how much the works will impinge on the loch environment. Promised parking from the owners has never materialised to date.

With conditions at Loirston in mind, we were given the opportunity to take on the lease of a small Stillwater out at Millpond, Newmachar. This is a very small fishery which can cope with 10 to 12 anglers. The Millpond is an extremely well-maintained venue and a relatively safe venue for younger or older members to fish. At first, we stocked with relatively small fish of up to 1.5lb as we had no idea how they would survive. All turned out well and a second stocking saw some larger fish introduced. A small group of members regularly fish there, and the catch returns to date have been outstanding. It is good to have somewhere different to go other than Loirston or Parkhill where you can catch a rainbow trout.

A review of our still waters will be carried out in the coming season.

A more detailed report of 2019 will be presented at the AGM in January.

Robert Dey
President



River Don 2019 Review

The River Don fished much better for salmon this season and although the final catch figures are not yet available hopefully around 800 salmon and grilse will have been reported. For most of the season river levels remained at a great height for angling this kept fish on the move ensuring all beats throughout the river system were given a chance of sport. The spring component of fish was evident in the river from as early as February, reports of fresh fish being landed continued to come in from April through to late May. Despite low angling effort on many beats it was a much better start than previous springs with most beats well into double figures. By the end of May catches were approaching 200 fish.

Grilse began to appear early June; small runs of fish came in off the tides and quickly scattered upstream giving sport to the middle beats around Alford. Sea liced fish were landed as far up river at Kildrummy. July was a drier warmer month; river levels fell away which suited the lower beats, but air and water temperatures subsequently rose. Anglers were reluctant to venture out in such daytime conditions and many beats remained unfished until late evening. Small runs of salmon, grilse and sea trout were seen coming in off the tides and moving over the weirs on the lower reaches. Seatrout landings improved on many beats with fish up to 6lbs being landed.

The month of August saw a decent amount of fish appearing after a flush of water increased river levels and landings of salmon and grilse were reported daily from many beats over the coming weeks. It was as good a grilse run witnessed in as many a year, a few anglers reported having 3 or 4 fish for their days fishing and losing as many again. One week in August saw over 40 fish landed including several summer salmon weighing over twenty pounds.

As river levels dropped away the lower beats fared better although numbers of fresh fish entering the system tailed off and most fish being landed were older and coloured anglers didn't complain after previous poor years. As the month of September ended apart from the odd fresh fish being landed no real autumn run of clean fish had appeared and catches were hard to come by as the older fish went dour and off the take.

Thankfully by mid - October an increase in river levels perked both fish and anglers up, some decent catches were reported especially on the middle and upper reaches but for a few lower beats the last few weeks ended quietly as fish lying in the pools moved on upstream nearer to the spawning areas.

Overall though a more positive season on the Don and one for many to look successfully back on, I know of a few anglers who returned over 25 salmon for their season which in current times is good going. Despite an upturn in catches low angling effort remains a problem for many beats and we must all do our best to encourage new anglers onto the river and into fishing.

Once the angling season finishes monitoring surveys are carried out by Fishery Board staff over various main river and tributaries spawning sites to monitor the number of redds present. This year surveys have been continually hampered by the high river flows which make for poor visibility, but several positive sites have been noted especially on the upper tributaries of the river where an increase in redds has been seen. Spawning activity started earlier than normal this year and the average size of fish observed has been larger. As the spawning cycle came to an end a decent number of dead salmon kelts some around 20lb were found washed up on the river banks although sad to find this it also gives us an indication to fish numbers.

The 2020 River Don salmon angling season begins on the 11th February. Please be aware that the River Don remains in a Category 3 river grading meaning by law all salmon and grilse landed must be returned alive or dead to the river.

Salmon poaching still goes on and can have a major impact on fish stocks, particularly when numbers are down across the country.

The support of anglers is an important element in the fight against wildlife crime. Please report any fish poaching or suspicious activity.

Fisheries Officers can be contacted 24/7 on 01467 642121. All calls will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Martin Webster
Fisheries Officer

CULTER BEAT REPORT SEASON 2019

The Association commenced taking up the lease on this beat last season and given the excellent catches it produced, and despite the limited experience members had in fishing it, it was not surprising that come the first of February this year members were eager to cast a line. Sadly though, this was not to be as iced conditions on the bank and a river full of grue prevented even the hardest ADAA member claiming the first fish of the 2019 season from this beat.



As conditions improved so did the angling effort as members took advantage of the online booking system and booked on at their chosen time slot and on their preferred bank. Unfortunately, the rewards for all this eager effort had to wait until July when the first Salmon, a bright and shiny 13 pounder was caught. Where were the early Springers, we ask? Given the wet spring that persisted throughout the summer resulting in high river levels obviously encouraged the fish to shoot through the lower beats. We have to remember, last year was a year of low water hence the good catches all through the season. However, that said, given the locality of the beat, its easy access to the fishings and improved riverbank maintenance all adds to a most enjoyable angling experience for those of us that fished this beat. And for those few persistent and lucky members, accounted for a seasons total of six salmon, fifteen grilse, 9 seatrout, 2 finnock and the odd brown trout.

Yes, the above catches are somewhat disappointing when compared with last season's returns, but given the high-water conditions the lower Dee endured this season many of us will not be too surprised. However, as one reads this report, the new season is just a few days away and many of us will be anticipating a much improved season. Tight lines to you all.

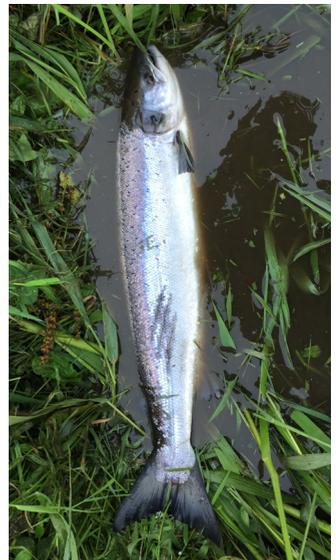
Convenor **Paul Adderton**

Keep 'em Wet!

Catch and Release has been common practice on most rivers for many years now and our anglers have a good track record for safely releasing fish. It is vitally important, especially in these times of diminishing runs, that every fish - whether salmon or not is returned alive to the river. This will give the fish the best possible chance to survive until spawning time. If you are going to photograph your catch, please ensure the fish is kept in the water as much as possible. Photographing the fish from all angles and exposing it to the air over an unnecessarily long period of time will considerably reduce its survival chances.

Good practise for releasing fish with minimum fuss is;

- Use strong tackle
- Play the fish quickly
- Always use a knotless net
- Keep the fish in the water at all times
- Never lift a fish by the tail
- Use long-nosed forceps or a hook releasing tool to gently remove the hook



Cruives & Netherdon

With the unsettled water levels throughout the season, it never gave the salmon reason to hold in the lower Don. Despite the unsettled conditions of the river there has been a decent return of Salmon and Grilse. For the 122 blank sessions (72 Cruives & 50 Netherdon) over the two beats, we had 41 Salmon and Grilse (31 Cruives & 10 Netherdon) recorded up to 15lb. This is a decent return given the higher than average water levels during the summer period.

Like on much of the river, sea trout numbers were lower than usual. Over the course of the season there were 13 Sea trout recorded (6 Cruives & 7 Netherdon) up to healthy 3lb. The total catch of Finnock recorded (7 Cruives & 16 Netherdon) for these beats was 23. Our lower Don beats in this area are renowned for the quality of their wild brown trout. There were 44 of these hard-fighting brown trout reported (35 Cruives & 9 Netherdon) up to 4lb in weight.

Matthew Reilly

Conveners Report – Loirston Loch 2019

In 2019 Loirston Loch had many issues that have had a direct effect on both angling effort and fish.

The weed problem has returned with a vengeance this year and we found ourselves in a desperate and difficult situation. We had been in discussion with a local contractor who had a purpose built weed cutting and removal machine, who advised that he would be in a position to carry out the weed cutting. This was due to take place towards the middle of summer when the weeds were active to get the best results. Unfortunately, the contractor fell ill so was unable to carry out the work at that time. Unfortunately, by that time, we were right in the middle of the grass cutting season so Stuart and Nicky already had a full schedule and were unable to attempt to address the weed issue until later in the season. In 2020, we hope to have another solution to the weeds at Loirston Loch but the committee are open to any suggestion from members on how best to tackle this issue.

The Loch has also become a free meal ticket for anything between 15 and 20 Cormorants who visit daily. They all take their share of fish which could be anything up to 20-30 fish per day. This is the most birds we have seen in recent years and this trend will probably continue in years to come due to current legislation. Sadly, our hands are tied in terms of action we, as an Association can take to prevent these birds visiting the loch and feasting on our stock.

We had 2 larger than the usual stocking this year and these fish were the best quality available. Many of our members have continued to have some great sport throughout the season and should continue into the winter months if they brave the elements. We have a report from one of our members that a rainbow trout of around 9lbs was caught and safely returned over at the farm side.

We have recently met with the owners of Loirston Loch who have given their assurance that the ADAA will continue with the lease for the foreseeable future. The owner has advised that they intend to start work in the area in Spring 2020 with building work to begin early summer once the access road and utilities are in place. The owners will also be building a second carpark with room for 6 cars at the West side of the loch to allow easy access to the Loch Inch side.

The committee will continue to work closely with the owner and all the contractors to gain access to the farm side in 2020 and will keep the membership updated as much as possible with what is going on.

Kenny Riddell
Loirston Loch Convenor

Parkhill Fishery 2019

The start of the year saw some decent overwintered fish taken in January and February when the place wasn't iced over. The average weight was over 3lb per fish showing that the previous year's fish had grown on nicely.

From March to the end of June, catches were consistent but began to drop off into July as the fishery began to weed up making fishing more difficult. Unfortunately, on the day weed cutting was to be carried out in early August, the outboard engine suffered a breakdown which proved to be a very serious and could not be repaired due to lack of available spares for the engine which was over 20 years old. A replacement was investigated, and we opted to buy a new one rather than a second-hand engine as there was not a lot of difference in price plus, with a new engine we have an extended guarantee.

With another stocking in September after the weed was eventually cut, sport picked up again and was consistent until writing this report in the 3rd week of November.

In the spring, it was noted the condition of casting jetty no. 1 was very poor with rotting timbers. A new jetty was constructed, doing away with the side handrails which members



had complained about and is no constructed lower down closer to the water surface making it easier to land a fish. As the time of writing, we are starting to replace jetty no 5 which was also becoming unsafe. We were very fortunate in being donated most of the required timber which kept the costs down.

Up to date a total of 360 fish have been reported for the year so far.

Recently a couple of cormorants have been visiting regularly and they will certainly plunder our fish stocks. All we can do currently is if you see them is to scare them off. The more they are scared off the greater the chance they will give up on their visits.

Tight lines for 2020

Mill Pond Convenor Report

Millpond opened on 20th March with an open invite to our junior members, unfortunately the fish were still unsettled after being recently stocked into what was a fallow fishery and were reluctant to take a fly resulting in only 4 fish being caught on the day. From then on there was no looking back! The following day produced around 50 fish and the good catches continued throughout the season with some impressive individual returns. In June the club arranged a 'have a go' evening with the Newmachar Beavers & a large group descended noisily on the fishery with great enthusiasm. Everyone had a great time despite one of the group deciding to jump in the pond, thankfully to no harm. One fish was hooked with great excitement but got away – I suspect all the fish very quickly moved to the middle of the pond to escape the enthusiastic casting!

In addition to the stocked fish a total of 13 brown trout were also caught. Overall over 550 fish were caught by 41 anglers which is an impressive result.

Millpond is a small fishery which is ideally suited to juniors who stand a good chance of hooking a fish. It's also great fun with light tackle, especially during evening hatches with a dry fly. All whilst being quietly observed by the resident swan. The fish are in great condition with plenty of good feeding in the pond and I would expect to see some nice over wintered fish next season.

This is a great asset to the club and an extended lease is being agreed with the owner. Members are reminded to respect his property and be mindful of the equestrian activities in the area.

Stewart Horne

Convener's Report Season 2019

Upper and Lower Parkhill and Upper Stoneywood

The 2019 season was defined almost throughout by higher water levels than we have experienced for some time. This had a two-pronged effect on returns. The season's catch of salmon and grilse at 89 fish and 56 fish respectively was well up on the previous season and in line with the improvement on the Don generally, particularly on beats upstream.

Perhaps because of the higher river levels many more fish were taken with spinning lures than by fly, meaning the returns from some of our regular skillful fly anglers were, in most cases, down somewhat on 2018. Although a fresh salmon was recorded in late February/early March, and fish were landed throughout the season, as is normal for the Don, the last three months were the most productive with grilse figuring from June onwards.

Sea trout were landed from April through to

October, although infrequently, with a total of only 12 recorded, the higher water levels obviously encouraging these fish to run quickly through our lower beats.

A total of some 240 brown trout were recorded and were fairly evenly spaced out over the season. Fly hatches were somewhat sporadic at times but the trout, as always, were in excellent condition, so they are getting good feeding anyway.

These remarks refer almost exclusively to the Parkhill beats, as Upper Stoneywood was again very lightly fished, returning only 1 salmon and 4 brown trout.

A puzzling feature of the season just past is that some of our regular rods, despite spending many hours on the river, were not seeing salmon showing in numbers. However, the proof of the pudding, as the saying goes, is in the eating (or the landing of fish in our case!), so let us hope this upward trend continues next year.

Tight lines to all in season 2020.

John Stephen,
Convener, Parkhill and Stoneywood.

Kemnay Convener Report 2019

What a difference a year makes - The 2019 season kicked off in February with Kemnay once again producing the first springer of the season from our association waters. We then had to wait until the 3rd week of March for the next fish when, just like buses, 2 were caught on the same day! True to form April fished well with 11 fish being caught. With the continued good water, May fishing continued to be productive with a further 14 fish being caught including 4 on one day. Things then quietened down with just a few fish on the back of spates in June and August. The first decent spate in September kicked off the autumn fishing and this continued with fish consistently being caught on the back of each subsequent spate throughout September and October giving us a very respectable season total of 63 fish.

On the brown trout, as per recent years angling effort has been low - April and May traditionally provide the best sport and this year was no exception with fish up to 5lb being reported, some were caught whilst angling for salmon but Kemnay continues to produce specimen 3 and 4lb trout to the fly.

Kemnay is not heavily fished but provides good opportunities and consistent sport in the right conditions. With the members now reporting salmon angling effort, further analysis reveals that approximately 37 individual anglers fished for salmon at Kemnay over the 2019 season, on average, this resulted less than 3 visits being required before a fish was landed.

Stewart Horne



Convener's Report 2019 Season – Upper Fintray

The 2019 season, despite being a much wetter one than the previous year's, followed a fairly similar and, in fact, typical fashion inasmuch as the beat was again fairly lightly fished. This resulted in returns of 10 salmon and grilse, all in the last 6 weeks of the season, 3 sea trout in the June/July period and 33 brown trout mainly taken in the peak brownie months of April to July.

Those members who are not familiar with this beat could be forgiven for perhaps thinking it looks somewhat featureless over a large part of its course, but it holds some very large brownies which can be tempted to the fly when conditions are right, especially on balmy summer evenings.

Sea trout normally make a welcome appearance from early June until early August though the prevalence of highish water over that period in 2019 obviously encouraged the fish to run through the beat quicker than would normally be the case.

Salmon anglers would, with advantage, concentrate their efforts on the 3 main holding/taking areas of the pools at the top and bottom of the beat in addition to the Bridge pool and the straight stretch above the road bridge.

Perhaps the 2020 season will see more anglers trying this underrated beat and discovering its attractions. It is certainly one of my favourite ADAA waters.

Tight lines for the season ahead.

John W Stephen

Convener, Upper Fintray

Lower Fintray Beat Report

2019 was a better year for salmon on the River Don and catches on the Lower Fintray beat improved as a result. The season's tally of 51 salmon/grilse (biggest 27lb) was a marked improvement on the previous few seasons despite angling effort still on the low side. This seems to be a common theme up and down the river even though the salmon were there in more abundant numbers than the last few years.

In an attempt to encourage more anglers onto the water, the Management Committee took the decision to remove the historic fly only rule for June, July and August. This certainly proved its worth as there were an additional 10 salmon/grilse caught during these months that fell to the spinner. These rods may have fished elsewhere during this time and not caught anything. My son, who was 7 at time, also caught his first ever salmon during the month of August on a spinner. The smile on his face when he landed that fish is a memory that will stay with me for a long time to come. Hopefully

more anglers, young and old will benefit from the relaxation on this rule for the forthcoming season.

Sea trout on our beats of the Don were few and far between this year and the Lower Fintray beat – which is usually a good bet for a sea trout, only had 5 in the book for the season. Again, angling effort for these hard-fighting fish was low so the poor returns weren't entirely unexpected. There were one or two caught however with the biggest fish being estimated at cracking 5lb in weight.

Higher than average river levels during the prime months of the trout season seems to have had a major impact on numbers for the 2019 season. Despite one or two good days, catch returns were poor and the season tally of 23 is very low given how good some of the water is for trout fishing. The biggest trout of the season tipped the scales at an estimated 5lbs.

Craig Fleming

River Ythan

The Ythan has had the toughest season since I started fishing it 14 years ago. Looking at the figures from the catch return system, there were 41 blank sessions recorded for 16 Salmon and Grilse up to 14lb. This does not look that bad going by the angling effort, but my BIG worry is that people are not recording their efforts and catches. If your sessions and catches are not recorded correctly then the Committee will see that the lack of interest of certain waters and poor catch returns do not merit paying the assessments and rental costs. I cannot stress enough how important this is, especially in the current climate to record all blanks and fish caught.

It has not been all doom and gloom on the Ythan however, we have had a good return of Sea Trout this year with 79 reported up to 5lb. Of this 79 only 2 were kept. This is great conservational efforts shown by ADAA members in which they should be applauded.

Machar Pool

The first Sea Trout off the Machar Pool was taken on the 1st June and the largest was around the 5lb mark. July proved to be the best month of the season to catch a sea trout or two down in the Estuary. Over the course of the season there were 29 sea trout report and 65 Finnock.

Aberdeenshire Fly Fish 50

Aberdeenshire has a new grassroots angling development programme called Aberdeenshire Fly Fish 50. The initiative is part of the Scottish Angling National Development Strategy (SANDS). The AFF50 group was created in March and has recently completed its first block of fly-fishing lessons for novice and intermediate anglers at Loch Inscn Trout Fishery and a second block at Tullich Fishery has just been advertised. AFF50 will deliver angling lessons and 'come and try' events as well as highlighting other events across the region.

Ross Macdonald, the Dee's Fisheries Development Officer said. 'We are delighted with the start we have made, and I believe we can inspire new people to join us and share our passion for fly fishing. 2019 is a pilot year and from 2020 it is planned to hold five-lesson blocks at trout fisheries across Aberdeenshire, so 50 new people receive professional instruction each year. After three sessions, the participants will be able to go out fishing under their own steam but with full follow up support available. We are supported by a first-class group of volunteers including local angling instructors, so we can deliver a polished, professional product.

Check out the AFF50 Facebook page for more details.
www.facebook.com/AberdeenshireFlyFish50

Ardlethan

With the low water conditions throughout the summer, Ardlethan suffered from thick weed growth in the water. This made for some challenging fishing conditions. The first Sea Trout was taken 8th June followed by the first grilse on 12th July. The biggest salmon reported was 14lb. There were some decent sea trout recorded with 4 listed at 4lb as well as numerous fish around the 3lb mark.

Belmuir

Belmuir must have the best Salmon catch to blank days ratio for the whole of the UK! There was just one solitary salmon caught with zero blank days recorded. Brian Shand had an 11lb salmon on the fly 13th July and the only Sea Trout the previous day at 2lb. There were also 22 Finnock reported over the season.

Methlick

Methlick seems to have suffered a bit more in comparison to our other beats on the Ythan. There were no returns of salmon or grilse this season which is poor. There were just 3 sea trout and 13 Finnock reported. There is usually more than caught in the opening few weeks of the season alone.



Repairs and Maintenance 2019

As the maintenance contract is the 2nd biggest outlay for the Association after rents and assessments, it is never far away from discussions taking place on the river banks etc. This year was no different.



The unusually wet summer made short work of the first scheduled cut of the river banks and by the time Stuart and Nicky had finished, it was all needing done again. They were up against it from the off as they tried to keep on top of the approx. 40 miles of fishings as well as doing all other maintenance works required during this period. Some of our most popular fishing areas did get two or more cuts during the season.

The reed growth also proved to be a problem on many stretches of our fishings this year. It's not as easy as it may look trying to keep these reeds under control and cutting them can be extremely dangerous, especially along the banks of some of the deeper pools. Being chained to a heavy strimmer is hard work at the best of times but one false move cutting bankside reeds and the operator will have a serious problem trying to pull themselves from the water should they fall in. Some pools were tackled but areas like Kemnay for example proved to be much more difficult to address and large parts could not be cut safely. The frustration shown by some anglers is understandable as their favourite pools have been difficult to fish from the bank at times, but Stuart and Nicky really were fighting a losing battle this year. Having said that, the wetter summer brought more salmon and grilse into the river during this period, so it is a bit of a double-edged sword.

However, it isn't just the banks that needed attention. There were various other projects completed over the course of the season.

For example, the bridge over the Goyal Burn at Upper Parkhill was rotten and dangerous to cross as a result. This was completely re-built by Stuart and a small group of volunteers in the early summer. The new bridge looks great and will hopefully last as long as the one it replaced.

A few of the jetties at Parkhill Fishery were beginning to show their age now with the pier nearest the car park probably being worst of all. This pier was replaced and was constructed differently to what was originally there. The railings either side were removed, and it is also now closer to the water which should make landing fishing much easier. Several other piers were also repaired.

The recently acquired Culter beat on the River Dee needed a lot of attention this year. Stiles were erected, paths were maintained, and all the pools were numbered for ease of using the beat maps.

The hut at the Manse Pool was having issues with water ingress. The roof was subsequently re-fixed to the sides and it was given a good coat of wood preserve. The hut is now water tight again and should last a good few more years yet as a result.

The continually weed problems at Loirston Loch were prevalent again this year and this made the fishing difficult at best. The Loirston Loch Convenor's Report goes into much more detail of what was done to try and resolve the issues.



Pots & Fords Angling Association

The history of the Aberdeen & District Angling Association is that it was founded by anglers who were season tickets holder on the Pots & Fords beat of the Dee after the 2nd World War. After the war, the owners of the beat asked the anglers to form an Association and take over the administration of permits for the beat. This resulted in the founding of the Pots & Fords Angling Association. At the time, there was a need for available fishings in the City of Aberdeen and members of the Pots & Fords Association were instrumental in the founding of Aberdeen & District Angling Association.

In its infancy, members of the newly founded ADAA were able to obtain daily permits for the Pots & Fords Water. Eventually, the ADAA expanded into the organisation you all know today.

The Pots & Fords Association however still exists as a separate organisation and under the rules when set up originally. There are a limited number of season ticket holders on the beat and ADAA members can still purchase a daily permit should they wish.

Over the years, new members of the Pots & Fords Association have by agreement come from ADAA membership. Anyone who has been an ADAA member for at least 5 years can submit an application to become a Season Ticket holder on the beat. Some will say membership is from dead men's shoes which perhaps is not far from the truth. There is however a small waiting list for membership which gives members unlimited access to the beat during the season for a fee which is currently a mere £15 for the season. Fishing is mainly for finnock and sea trout with the occasional brown trout. Certain times of the season are better than others and water heights will also play a part in being successful or not.

If you are interested in going onto the waiting list please email your particulars ie name & address and ADAA membership no under the heading "Pots & Fords" to the following email address – robertdey19@btinternet.com

River International 2020

Aberdeen & District Angling Association will once again host the SANACC River International on Friday 26th June 2020, the venues are Upper Fintray, Upper & Lower Parkhill & Upper Stoneywood. Some other river proprietors have also allowed use of their water to accommodate the River International.

This will be the second time in 4 years that the ADAA have hosted the event which saw Team Scotland lifting the Gold Medal last time round. With home advantage, the money is on Team Scotland to lift the Gold Medal again next year.

Team Scotland have done very well these past couple of years so feel free to come along a show your support on the day or just to have a walk about leading up to the competition and watch some of the country's finest river anglers go about their business.

The SANACC International Competition is open to all anglers who are members of the ADAA. To qualify, all you need to do is enter the ADAA Senior Competitions and finish in the top 3 places which takes you through

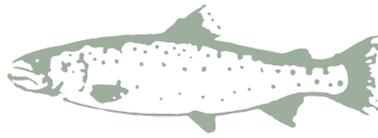
to the SANACC River Heats on the River Tummel. The top 5 anglers from each heat then go through to the river final which is also on the River Tummel. The top 6 anglers in the Final then go through to represent Scotland at the next years International which could be in Scotland, England, Ireland or Wales. It's a fantastic way to improve your angling skills, learns new angling methods and meet some fantastic people.

The SANACC Committee will be looking for beat marshals and controllers for the River International on the day of the competition so if you're interested, or just want to know more about what's involved then feel free to get in touch with me. Even if want to know more about competition angling in general please get in touch.

Team Scotland Team Members are;

Richard McHattie (Capt)
James Litster
Mark Straughen
Carl Ferguson
Ross McKeen
Martin Stewart
Dick Logan (Manager)

Kenny Riddell
ADAA Entertainments Convener



ADAA Fly Tying Sessions

Experienced fly tyer, novice or just interested in finding out more.

Why not come along to the Bothy on Riverside Drive to share patterns, tips and advice on everything fly-tying related.

Look out for emails & on the ADAA Facebook page for the next planned session.



ADAA Gift Vouchers

Following a request from several members we have made these available via the ADAA shop on the website www.adaa.org.uk.

Vouchers are available in sums of either £25 or £50 and you can buy as much as required. All you need to do is make your purchase and identify the name of the person the voucher is for. You will receive an email after purchase which is the voucher. No separate documents will be issued.

Direct Debit Membership 2020

Please remember that you do not have to do anything if you currently pay by Direct Debit. Payment for season 2020 will be taken at the same intervals as currently i.e. in 1 instalment or in 10 monthly instalments.

Please also make sure we have your current address and date of birth on our records, especially if you have recently moved or you think you may qualify for senior membership rates next season.

Contact us

ADAA Secretary
Paul Toseland
27 Cove Circle,
Aberdeen AB12 3DG
Email: secretary@adaasales.co.uk
www.adaa.org.uk



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