

## **Presidential Remarks.**

It certainly has been a changing year especially regarding weather extremes, and I am sure we all now accept climate change and the impact that this is having upon us..... Frost, drought, excessive heat, floods, all of which has impacted on the Association. In all the years I have been a member I do not recall the closure of our fishing's, but on the advice of scientists and being one of the largest angling associations for the fish's welfare, we thought it wise to do so. Anyway, it was only for a few days, and I am sure it did not inconvenience us too much. I am sure Edwin will touch more on this later this in his address.

However, it is not all bad news, as Ash has so eloquently expelled to us a few moments ago. I am pleased to say our Bothy on Riverside Drive that has the unenviable reputation of flooding when the river rises and that you have heard many woes from me in past Newsletters, will be a thing of the past. Any day now a contractor will be installing specially manufactured flood barriers that will mitigate any further flooding. Once this work is completed it is anticipated that the Association will make more use of the Bothy for members activities such as fly tying and given our fantastic increase in junior membership a lot of supporting activities for them too. However, your assistance is needed here for helping our juniors.

We have also taken on another fishing beat, Middle Drum on the lower Dee. I know many of you have enjoyed the opportunity to fish the beat and taken full advantage of the hut or better known as the "Dramery". All be it our lease is for only two years, and we only have one year to go, but hopefully it is our intention that the Association may be able to extend the lease for a further period. Sadly, catches for the season from the beat were not as expected but given the conditions, they were on parr with the opposite bank and neighbouring beats.....

.....That said, I followed a member down the Lawson pool one morning in September and he caught three salmon in front of me..... and I blanked. There's na justice.....!

**Paul Adderton, President, Aberdeen and District Angling Association**

**January 2024**