The Aberdeen and District Angling Association (ADAA)

The Association was founded in 1947 by anglers who fished the Pot and Ford waters of the River Dee and was formed to give those people of Aberdeen who were interested in angling somewhere to fish and to have a voice in the sport.

Since our inception we have grown considerably and are now recognised as the largest angling association in Scotland. We own and lease important fishings on the Rivers Dee, Don, Ythan and Feugh in addition to two stocked still-water fisheries, one of which is the Loch of Loirston, situated on the southern approach to Aberdeen.

The Riverside Bothy is our spiritual home and has been our headquarters since we took it over from The Dee Salmon Fishing Company in the late 1970s. This iconic local landmark is used for various events and our monthly committee meetings are held here.

Those interested in angling, whether experienced or not, are invited to join our Association. Young people are encouraged to try this unique outdoor sport and are also welcome to join us.
If you are interested in joining us please contact our Secretary at the following email address: *secretary@adaasales.co.uk*

For more info check out our website: www.adaa.org.uk

The River Dee Pot and Ford Beat.

This tidal stretch of the River Dee takes its name from the local salmon pool or "pot", and the fords, the only means of crossing the river before any bridge was built.

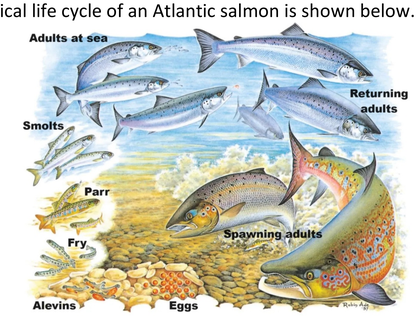
Provided the river level was not too high, the river could be forded here either on foot or by boat and provided the only access in or out of Aberdeen from the south, both for travel and trade. These fords had been used for centuries, including by the Roman Legions when they were on the march north.

The Old Bridge of Dee, some half mile or so above this point, was completed in the early 1500s. The ground all around this area is Common Good Land and was granted to the citizens of Aberdeen by King Robert the Bruce. This considerable asset is still held by the Council on behalf of the populace.

The Fish in the River DEE

The river Dee, while having a variety of wild native fish, is most renowned for the Atlantic Salmon and its close relative, the Sea Trout.

- Salmon and sea trout begin their lives in the rivers and tributaries of the River Dee as eggs, hatching as alevins, then growing through fry and parr stages before heading off to the sea as smolts to their natural feeding grounds in the North Atlantic.
- The journey that salmon undertake from the river of their birth to the furthest regions of the North Atlantic can be over 1000 miles in length with many perils on the way. Sea trout tend to feed in nearer coastal waters.
- Once they have grown bigger and stronger they return to the same river or tributary where they were born, to breed and carry on the species.
- Mature salmon can return to spawn after only one winter at sea and are often then referred to as grilse. Young sea trout usually return to the river for the first time after only a summer of sea feeding. These immature fish, which will not spawn, are known as finnock.
- While it is not unusual for sea trout to spawn multiple times, only around 10% of salmon survive the rigours of spawning to return a second or third time.
- The typical life cycle of an Atlantic salmon is shown below.



The importance of Conservation

Due to a combination of factors over many decades, the populations of salmon and sea trout in the river Dee (and across all rivers in the UK, Europe and elsewhere) have reached critically low levels. They are now internationally recognised by the IUCN as an **endangered species**. **For more info and how you can help, please refer to: https://atlanticsalmontrust.org/**