



Aber Angling News 2010



Chairman's Report & Commentary 2009 - 2010 Season

The Chairman and Management Committee would like to thank everyone for their cooperation in maintaining the country code with regard to closing farm gates and respecting the parking arrangements, particularly at certain venues. A little mutual respect goes a long way.

With regard to the countryside code, we need to keep our own house in order by ensuring we maintain all the areas that we own, or over which we have fishing rights. We have a well organised and effective "rivers workparty" but work parties on the lakes have been a little haphazard recently.

A number of areas were not tended to last year because the "Band of Five" workers could not do all the maintenance required on the nine lakes. A few well organised and attended work parties could get most of the work done quickly and efficiently.

To that end, we are looking for an able bodied work party organiser to arrange and oversee work parties on the lakes. If you feel you could take on this responsibility and take a place on the committee, or simply attend the work parties, please contact the secretary Mike Barrett (01970) 623 682. Please don't leave it all to the few, there's a lot to do! Remember, if you have a permit the water belongs to you and the Association needs your help.

Finally, many thanks to all our sponsors your contribution is invaluable to the Association.

Tight Lines for the 2011 season

Chas Webb, AAA Chairman

Secretary's Report For The 2010 Season.

This will be a brief report, as I only took over the role of secretary in mid October 2010.

Firstly the fishing, and yet again the rivers have not been producing either the size nor quantity of fish that anglers had hoped for. The bailiff (Fred) reported 21 salmon and 121 sea trout caught for the season.

Personally I take the view that a poor season for the anglers might just be a good one for the migrating fish - provided of course that the numbers are there to ensure viable spawning, and that the river conditions remain benevolent! Time will tell.

The Rheidol has never been the easiest of rivers to fish, but generally if you put in the hours you will hit it right, eventually. The Ystwyth, is in my opinion generally more reliable. However this year I put in some 30 hours of fishing to catch my first fish, a brown trout, and never did catch a sea trout from it.

The lakes have again fished well, the three at Trisant being the most popular. The caravans on Frongoch have been productive for the visiting anglers and equally productive for the Association's finances. A big thank you must go firstly to Ray and Chas for their running of the vans, and secondly to Meurig for co-ordinating the bookings and payments. Ray is stepping down this year, so we must find a new caravan park manager.

Through the excellent work of Mark Sedgewick, Mike Leggett and Alistair Dryburgh the Association received a massive boost with a Wild Fishing Wales grant to improve signage, access and habitat on the river Rheidol, and although an ongoing project, much of the work has already been accomplished. The Association's input to this has involved a lot of work parties, and in fairness the three guys, Mark, Mike L. and Alistair have led the way, working many Sundays from 10.00am to 4 pm. I myself have only managed to attend two of these sessions, but the commitment of these guys warrants, in my view, special recognition. I'm sure that the other Association members (of which there are a number of regular work party attendees, unlike me) would echo this sentiment. (See also 'River Improvements' below)

Can I take this opportunity to pass on mine and the Association's thanks to our past secretary, Peredur, for his unstinting service over more than twenty years. Diolch.

It is with great sadness that I have to report the passing away of three of our members, Malcolm Edwards, Ken (Jack) Jones. A memorial has been erected with an engraved plaque at Trotters for Malcolm, with a particularly poignant inscription.

A memorial will also be erected on the opposite bank at Jack's point for Ken. A memorial bench will also be sited further down the river for John Sargent. They will all be sorely missed. The Association continues to be run effectively by the management committee, and I thank them for their support since I took on the role as secretary.

And finally, (and at the risk of upsetting some):

Prior to coming onto this committee, I had been of the opinion that if I wanted to improve my chances of catching on the rivers, then I needed to form my own work party of one, rather than ask, through the Association, for others to do the work for me! Over the previous 3 years I must have put in 40 hours plus of work improving the runs I personally like to fish. Now, if indeed they were improvements, then they were there for all to benefit from, but if I am honest it was mainly for my benefit.

Not everyone can, nor should be operating chain saws, wading to clear obstructions, using extended engine driven high reach saws and 10m pole saws. Voluntary work parties are a collective effort, there are jobs that everyone can get involved in, no matter how limited your technical expertise! So D'anglers in my humble opinion, the question ought not to be- What can your Association do for you? BUT- What can you do for your Association?

Mike Barrett (Hon Sec) January 2011.

Long Standing Secretary Retires

Peredur Eklund resigned as secretary of the association on November 17th 2010. The Chairman of the Association thanked Peredur for his long and loyal service to the Aberystwyth Angling Association for over twenty years and wished both he and his wife Jean a happy retirement. At the Annual Dinner, Peredur was presented with an engraved decanter and made Honorary President of the Association.

Peredur will continue to issue permits and boat keys from his home address as before.

River Improvements



New path at Trotters



New path at Trotters

Improvements to a number of access points coupled with some tree and shrub clearance via the Wild Fishing Wales project which is led by the Environment Agency Wales and part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Assembly Government, which is part of the Countryside Council for Wales' Community and

Nature strategic project are continuing.

The access path at Trotters is now complete as are the new steps at Irmhytage. New gates and styles have also been installed in many



The new steps at Irmhytage



One of the new gates (this one at Mill Pool)

sections of the river making the access much simpler and safer (see photos). In addition, the access at Ash Pool, Whirlpool and the pools just up and down stream of the road bridge at Capel Bangor (Rhiwarthen) have also been modified / improved, and the fishability of the Gorge

Pools and the stretch of water leading to Gordons Pool have been radically improved, the latter with new styles and stockproof fencing. It is envisaged that there will have been further access improvements by the beginning of the new season as part of the ongoing project. Many thanks to all those who have given freely of their time at workparties which go to make up some of the Associations input in kind toward the grant.

Re-Stocking In The Lakes

Although our usual fish stockist Geoff Rothwell has retired after many years of excellent provision of top quality fish to the Association, a new supplier has been appointed and restocking of the lakes will continue as usual during the coming season.



Chas and Geoff restocking Rhosgoch July 2010

A ditty from your Chairman!!

Some fish are big
Some fish are small
Yours to enjoy
But don't keep them all!!!



First fish on the first day caught by Chas Webb 1½ lbs. Who said there were no fish in Rhosrhydd, he's just caught it!!?

Malcolm Edwards Memorial Stone

A memorial stone "The Legend Of the Rheidol" has been erected at Trotters pool to celebrate Malcolm's life and prowess as a fisherman. A small group of Malcolm's friends gathered to unveil the stone at Trotters pool, which perhaps fittingly, was the last place Malcolm fished before his untimely death. Pictured from left to right: From left to right Darrel Griffiths (close friend), Chas Webb, Alister Dryburgh, Mark Sedgwick, Alyn James (close friend and fishing buddy), Fred Ralphs, Garry Beard (close friend and fishing buddy), Ieuan Bach (E.A. bailiff) & Moc Morgan. Also pictured by the memorial is Malcolm's aunt Margaret Torri.



The stone reads: "The legend of the Rheidol". Malcolm caught over 50 double figure sea trout from his beloved River Rheidol, an achievement that was to gain him international acknowledgement as one of the finest sea trout anglers of our time. "A wonderful fisherman and a loyal friend, he will be a legend of the Rheidol until the very end" - Moc Morgan.

Float Fishing To Be Allowed On Some Of The Associations Lakes

In light of the problems some anglers have encountered with weed whilst worming using a ledger line, the General Purpose Committee has decided that fishing a worm with a float will be permitted on the Associations worming lakes, viz., Craig y Pistyll, Syfydrin, Melindwr, Oerfa and Glandwgan for the coming season. No other baits may be fished with a float and ground baiting is strictly forbidden.

Anglers are reminded that it is strictly forbidden to use a float on the river.

River Level Indicator

Rob Evans can not only catch fish but knows his way around the Web! Rob has pointed out that we can get an indication of the height of the water from the Environment Agency at <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/riverlevels/120757.aspx?stationId=4093> Other Welsh River levels including the Ystwyth can be found too if you click on Tefi and North Ceredigion (left hand panel) an interactive map pops up.

Night Owl Competition 2010

The Night Owl competition was won by R. Colesworthy who caught two sea trout weighing 6lbs 12 oz. Second was Chris Truckle who also caught two sea trout weighing 3lbs 2oz

Rivers Day Competition Results 2010

Eighteen anglers entered the Rivers Day competition during 2010. The results were as follows:-
1st was Alister Dryburgh with a salmon of 6lbs 6.5 ozs caught on a spinner .
2nd was Chris Truckle with a sea trout of 2lbs 8.5 ozs

Fur and Feather 2010

Twenty seven anglers entered the competition, 23 fishing fly & 4 worm. This year the club had decided to allow fishing with a float. The weather forecast wasn't that good but thankfully that was to prove to be wrong and it was fine all day. The klaxon went at 10 am it wasn't long until rods were bending and quite a few anglers had bagged up before 2pm including the only junior angler, Richard Ricketts who said he's got to wait for his dad "Dai" to catch his bag (his dad had his leg pulled all afternoon). At 4pm the klaxon sounded and it was up to the scales.

In total, 69 fish were caught weighing 123 lbs 8 ozs

THE RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION WAS AS FOLLOWS*:-

TOP ROD

Wayne Parker of Penparcau 4 fish 8lbs 11 ozs caught on fly

FLY CATEGORY

1st Wyn Gwalchmai 4 fish 8lbs 2ozs
Heaviest fish Alan Powell 5lbs 3 ozs
No juniors or youth entered

WORM CATEGORY

ADULT WORM

1st Graham Edwards (Salty) 4 fish 7 lbs 6 ozs
2nd Mike Barrett 4 fish 5 lbs 14 ozs

JUNIOR WORM

Richard Ricketts 4 fish 7lbs 8 ozs
*(Only a single prize can be won by anglers)

After the weigh-in, a raffle was held, everyone won a prize & the hamper was won by Brian Llewelyn,. Our secretary Mike Barrett assisted Ray at the weigh-in & raffle & Chas our chairman assisted with the booking in.

The organisers thanked all anglers for coming, wished them all the very best and hoped to see them next year. The organisers also thanked all the sponsors for their generosity & Geoff Rothwell for his excellent fish.



Top Rod Wayne Parker with one of his fish and the trophy

Heaviest Fish Alan Powell

Graham Edwards (Salty)



First two photos, Junior Worm Champion (and Fisherman of the day) Richard Ricketts
 Other happy fishermen include Brian Davies, Ray Blackburne, Chris Davies, Meurig Lewis, Penri Edwards, Ken Llewelyn and Mr. Nathan !!

Other News

New Rules

There have been a number of minor changes to the Association Rules and Boat Rules so all anglers should acquaint themselves with the latest version. In order to try to make the use of the boats fairer, the following rule has been introduced for Frongoch only.

RULE 13) When all boats on a lake are occupied an angler must, when requested to by another boat permit holder, relinquish the use of the boat within a period of two hours from the time of the request.

On Llyn Frongoch, boat anglers must sign in and insert date and start time before taking out a boat. The book can be found in the Rest Room shed. When all the boats the lake are occupied, the anglers who have been on a boat the longest, must, when requested by another boat permit holder, relinquish the use of the boat within a period of two hours from the time of the request.

Craig y Pistyll Open. The restoration work on the dam at Craig y Pistyll is now complete and the lake will be open for fishing again for the 2011 season.

Caravan Replaced

The Association will have replaced the elderly Geryllyn caravan at Frongoch by mid March, providing even more comfortable surroundings for visiting anglers.

Catch Returns 2008 - 2010

Lakes

2010

Most Popular Lake: Frongoch
 2nd Most Popular Lake: Blaenmelindwr
 3rd Most Popular Lake: Rhosgoch

2009

Most Popular Lake: Frongoch
 2nd Most Popular Lake: Blaenmelindwr
 3rd Most Popular Lake: Rhosgoch

2008

Most Popular Lake: Frongoch
 Best Average: Craig-y-Pistyll (4 fish per visit)

Rivers

River catches were a little disappointing last season with 21 salmon and 121 sea trout caught on the Rheidol and 1 Salomon and seven sea trout caught on the Ystwyth.

Presentation Night Trophy Winners for 2010 Season

This years Dinner and Presentation evening was held at Brynamlwg Social Club on Friday 4th of February, the same venue as last year, with again a hot buffet meal. Twenty eight people were in attendance, which, bearing in mind the clash with some rugby game or other, was a goodly number and more than we have had for a number of years. The evening was of particular significance to the association for two reasons Firstly, it enabled us to honour our retiring secretary, Peredur Eklund, with the role of Hon: President and to present him with an engraved Whisky decanter whilst his wife Jean received a flower arrangement. Secondly, to welcome back our guest speaker Dr.



Junior Champion Richard Ricketts Receives His Trophy From Dr John Fish

John Fish MBE, a former secretary and management committee stalwart. Prior to the presentation of this years trophies, Dr. Fish enlightened us with his memories of the angling association, its lakes and rivers and particularly the issues with regard to water quality in the ex mining valleys of the Rheidol and Ystwyth. The mines are still causing problems, as leachates continue to flow from disused and abandoned workings. Our salmon and sewin have enough problems surviving their time at sea, so we need to make sure that when they return to our rivers to spawn they have the very best chance of being successful.

Trophies

First sea trout, heaviest sea trout on fly and heaviest fish. The **EJ Morgan Shield**, The **Frank Smythe Memorial Bowl** and the **John Lewis & Sons trophy** went to Robert Evans for his 9 lbs 2 oz. Sea trout.

Heaviest sea trout on worm/spinner – The **Elfed Jones Memorial Trophy** went to Mike Leggett for his 6 lbs 14oz. Sea trout.

The heaviest Lake trout on fly- The **Eyton Morgan Shield** went to Mr D Rees-Stevens for his 5 lbs 12 oz brown trout from Lyn Blaenmelindwr.

Heaviest fish caught by a youth. The **John Sargent Shield** went to Sion Dryburgh for his 6 lbs 8oz. Sea trout.

The Fur & Feather junior winner of Gary's Cabs Trophy was Richard Ricketts.

The Fur & Feather senior winner of the EJ Scaffolding Shield was Wayne Parker.

The **AAA Night Owl Competition Shield** went to Mr. R Goldsworthy for his 2 fish bag of 6 lbs 12oz.

Rivers Day competition winner of the picture and the **Elwyn Thomas Cup** was Alistair Dryburgh for his 6 lbs 6.5 oz. Salmon.

Runner-up was Chris Truckle who received the **Len Lloyd Cup** for his 2 lbs 8.5 oz. Sea trout.

The **Tynllidiart Shield** for the outstanding club member of 2010 was presented to chairman Chas Webb.



Some Of The Trophy Winners At The Annual Dinner



Guest speaker Dr John Fish spoke of some of his fishing memories

Work Party

Work Party Required to get the boats onto the water for the new season. Please meet Frongoch lake 10.30 Saturday 12th March. The more we get the easier it is!

Diary Dates

R.J. Bowne Competition (fly only) will be held on the Penrhyncoch Lakes this season on Saturday June 11th.

Night Owl Competition will be on Saturday 30th July.

Rivers Day Competition will be on Sunday 2nd October.

Fur and Feather will be Sunday 30th October.

Further details later (see web pages or contact secretary).

Killer Shrimp Found In Wales

The so called killer shrimp *Dikerogammarus villosus* has been found at two sites in Wales. All anglers need to be vigilant and take the necessary precautions to ensure that they do not spread this alien pest. Below are some general principles and suggestions as to how to keep your equipment and clothing free from the shrimp and its eggs.

Biosecurity for anglers (version 4: 17.12.10)

All fishing equipment including nets and drogues should not be used at different fishing venues unless they are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected. Bass bags should not be allowed in the water and should be thoroughly cleaned after use.

Disinfecting equipment: interim advice

If facilities allow, equipment can be hosed down or pressure-washed to remove shrimps. The washings should be contained and not allowed to enter any watercourse or drainage system currently free from *Dikerogammarus villosus*.

The current best method for preventing spread is to thoroughly dry clothing and equipment. The shrimp can survive up to 5 days in damp conditions, so the drying process must be thorough. Particular attention must be paid to the seams and seals of boots and waders.

There is currently uncertainty about the effectiveness of dipping equipment in disinfectants to kill the shrimp, it is, in any case, good practice for biosecurity. All disinfectants must be used and disposed of following the manufacturer's instructions particularly those regarding Health and Safety.

Useful links

For further information see: <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/alerts/index.cfm?id=3>

Health & Safety Issues

Health and Safety (H&S) issues have, (perhaps regrettably) become a part of everyday life and like it or not, affect us all in just about everything we do, even whilst fishing!! The Association has a H&S Policy and Risk Assessment sheets and information which are available on the web pages and on request from the secretary.

Recently, the national press has had articles about two common diseases which are pertinent to anglers who are frequently in an environment where disease transmission poses a higher risk. Both Weils and Lyme disease pose significant risks to health and whilst the former has always been around (it killed the Olympic rowing champion Andy Holmes last year), the latter is now known to have spread to Wales. Below some information about both diseases.

Anglers are reminded about Weils Disease (*Leptospirosis*) spread by contact with small rodent urine either directly or via water courses. All anglers should take sensible precautions, including but not exclusively: Cover any cuts, sores or scratches with waterproof plasters and thoroughly disinfect any wounds that occur at the waterside. Always wash your hands in clean tap water (or use a sterilising solution) and cover food carefully in a clean wrapper before eating. Do not put your hands in your mouth after immersing in river or lake water and never place bait or fishing line in your mouth. Do not touch any dead animals, especially rats and do not put your food directly on the bank. If you do develop flu-like symptoms which persist, tell your doctor that you may have been exposed to *Leptospirosis* so that he/she can consider it in making a diagnosis.



Lyme's disease (Lyme borreliosis) which is transmitted by tick bites, is also spreading. During 2008, there were 18 confirmed cases of Lyme borreliosis in Welsh residents. Ticks in this part of Wales are very common, and whilst most tick bites cause only minor irritation, anglers should be aware that sheep and deer ticks can spread Lyme's disease. Ticks can be safely removed with specialised forceps but care must be taken to ensure that the mouthparts of the tick are removed and that the tick is not squashed during the process. If you are not certain of how to do

this safely, contact your health care specialists. If you develop a reddening patch where a tick has been (see photo), you should contact your health care specialists immediately. For more information see:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/888/page/43862>

Membership Fees 2011

Members are reminded that a valid Environment Agency licences must be shown prior to purchase of any permit. They can be obtained online at www.environment-agency.gov.uk from Telesales on 0870 1662662 or at any main Post Office. AAA permits must be obtained before fishing; they are not available bank side. They are not transferrable and must be produced when asked for by any member of the Association. Anglers without a Permit or Licence will be asked to leave the Fishery.

Local Rates

| | |
|--|--------|
| Season - Adult | £100 |
| Season - Joint Husband and Wife | £132 |
| Season - Concessionary | £70 |
| Season - Concessionary Husband & Wife | £95 |
| Season - Youth | £22 |
| Season - Students | £72.50 |

Visitor Rates

| | |
|--|------|
| Season - Adult | £150 |
| Season - Joint Husband & Wife | £180 |
| Season - Concessionary | £100 |
| Season - Concessionary Husband & Wife | £130 |
| Season - Youth | £22 |
| Week - Whole Fishery | £84 |
| Week - Whole Fishery (Concessionary) | £72 |
| Week - Whole Fishery (Youth) | £15 |

Day Tickets

| | |
|--|-----|
| Whole Fishery | £20 |
| Whole Fishery (Concessionary) | £15 |
| Rivers only Only available to Ceredigion residents | £15 |
| Rivers only(Concessionary) | £12 |

Boat Charges

| | |
|---------|-----|
| Season | £45 |
| Deposit | £10 |

Day and week boat usage only available to occupiers of our caravans.

Caravan Charges

Available from Treasurer upon request, or from the website at: <http://www.aber-angling.co.uk/>

Day and week fishing Permits available to Caravan Occupiers at half the visitor rates. Half price season ticket only available to those staying in one of our caravans for a minimum of one week.

Permits are available from: Peredur Eklund 42 Erw Goch, Waunfawr, Aberystwyth, SY23 3AZ
Tel. (01970) 623021 or email on peredure@tiscali.co.uk

Aber Fishing Tackle, First Floor, 3 Terrace Road, (opposite Weatherspoons) Aberystwyth 01970 611200
Tynllidiart Arms, Capel Bangor, 01970 880248
Penparcau Post Office, 01970 612263

Post Office and Stores, Devils Bridge (not open Sundays)
01970 890228

Boat Permits are available from: P.Eklund 42 Erw Goch, Waunfawr, Aberystwyth, SY23 3AZ
Tel. (01970) 623021 or email on peredure@tiscali.co.uk

Further Information, Up To Date News & Contacts

For more detailed information, news and events see the web page at: <http://www.aber-angling.co.uk/> or Google Aber Angling

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