

# Carlisle Angling Association

Serving the people of Carlisle for 150 years

## Annual Newsletter



Number 17

Summer 2017

### Secretary and Chairman's Report.

The 2017 salmon season got off to a slow cold start in January and February. Unsettled weather in March and April meant river levels fluctuated and this meant any fish entering the system passed straight through CAA waters. Fish were taken on the usual beats above CAA, as far up as Lazonby and Armathwaite, which showed the intent of the fish to run. Small lifts of water at the end of April and early May moved fish again through CAA waters. Indeed it was the middle of April before the first fish off CAA was reported. More fish were reported as May arrived and by the middle of the month there were fish from the Long Pool to the Coops. As word got out more members ventured out and good numbers of fish have been taken and some lost.

Similar to last season the Sea Trout fishing appears to have also got off to a slow start. Cold evenings and unfavourable water conditions in April and early May meant anglers did not venture out night fishing despite reports of fish being both seen and caught early in the season by those members that were salmon fishing. Hopefully as June and July arrives water conditions will mean sport will improve for night fishing.

Trout fishing was mainly reliant on fishing bugs deep in the early part of the season as cold and un-settled weather keep the fish down. In mid- April surface sport increased with good hatches of Grannom and Hawthorn flies appearing. Yellow Sallys and large Dark Olives were also in evidence on warmer days. Some good catches of Trout and Grayling have been reported with some trout anglers also connecting with early running sea trout. As the weather warms and summer water levels appear it is anticipated we will see some excellent evening rises.

### Net Limitation Order and Tagging.

The tagging system will continue for the 2017 season, with the same conservation limits in place as the previous two years – **1 fish per day, 6 per season.** The EA have held off any further restrictions on the rod fishery until the full Net Limitation Order review in 2017 is finally completed. However it is likely the outcome of this local NLO will be superseded by national measures as part of the Environment Agency's 5 Point Plan to safeguard salmon stocks, with the possibility of measures being introduced for the 2018 season. Committee members are feeding in to this 5 Point Plan via REDFA, NWATFCC and the Angling Trust.

Members are reminded to collect tags from either John Norris Fishing Tackle or the Tourist Information Centre and they must produce a current EA rod licence for tags to be issued, the paper receipt version will be accepted again this season in response to some members not being able to collect tags as their rod licences had not arrived from the Post Office.

Tags will not be posted out to members.  
**CARCASS TAGS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR SEA TROUT.** A one Salmon per day, six per season limit is in place for these periods.

**Despite the tagging scheme being operational again, we would like to remind members we need to keep the catch and release figure of 90% or more, for the whole of the river, to prevent compulsory measures being introduced and to protect stocks. The future of our fishery is still very much in our own hands and for it to remain so we must hit that target again.**

### Piscivorous birds.

Members are reporting large numbers of both Goosander and Cormorants on CAA waters. We are part of a catchment wide scheme to control these birds,

although numbers we can shoot are limited. Would members still report large build ups of these birds to the Honorary Secretary on 01228 592745 as it is important we record these numbers – it is the only way we will get the numbers of birds we are allowed to cull increased. Photographic evidence of large numbers of birds would also help to get the allocation of bird numbers we can shoot increased.

### **Guide Fly Fishing Casting Day.**

Mr C Mitchelhill in association with Jim Fearn of Guide Fly Fishing is holding a demonstration day on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2017** where free tuition will be given to members attending the event. This has been a regular event for the last few years and has always been well attended. The event will be held at the Memorial Bridge as usual and will run from 1100am until 3pm. Come along and have some free coaching and try some of the latest equipment and lines.

### **Sheepmount access.**

The Sheepmount is currently still closed off, with no access at either end of this middle beat. The City Council has intimated it would a further 12 months for repairs to be completed and so it is likely the access restrictions will be in place all season. Fishing can be accessed by wading and crossing the Caldew at Caldew foot, but only in low water conditions.

**MEMBERS ARE ADVISED THEY DO THIS AT THEIR OWN RISK.**

### **Two changes to the rule booked were accepted by members attending the AGM in January 2017.**

#### **Amendment to Rule 14 – this now reads:-**

14(b) Worm fishing will not be permitted on the Association's water for coarse fish and migratory fish respectively, from 15<sup>th</sup> October until 16<sup>th</sup> June, excepting juveniles, who will be permitted to use the worm for coarse fish and Brown Trout.

#### **Amendment to Rule 12.**

From January 2018 existing Life Members and members becoming eligible for Life Membership from 2018 onwards, will pay 25% of the current Full Membership price.

### **Cattle in the field adjacent to the Long Pool.**

The committee has received complaints from some members regarding the cattle in this area being dangerous and aggressive. Would members please be aware of this when fishing in this area.

### **Dangerous dogs.**

Members are reporting they have been attacked by dogs that are being walked in the Spa House area. If you see a red Ford Fiesta van, registration number YY57 GUG, please be aware the owner will be walking two German Shepherd dogs and a Lurcher that are highly volatile. Any incidents should be reported directly to the police.

### **Exchange Ticket Scheme.**

The scheme is now being administered by Mr. Neil Munro. Anyone wanting to take advantage of the scheme should contact Neil directly on 07528605028 to arrange collection of tickets.

### **Facebook.**

The club now has a Facebook page where up to date information, photographs etc. will be posted.

### **Lowther Show.**

We are planning to have a stand at Lowther Country Fair again this year. This will be over Saturday and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017. If any member would like to help out on either of these two days please contact the Honorary Secretary.

### **Riverbank Clearances/Improvements.**

Mr. E. Glaister is continuing to organise work parties for strimming, weed cutting and other projects. Anyone wishing to lend a hand can contact him on 07917178024.

### **WillowHolme Access.**

The access to the carpark at the Bonemill was temporarily cut off by Electricity North West. This has now been restored and members can again park at the weir.

### **Bailiffs.**

Mr. A. Spencer is now the associations Head bailiff and he can be contacted on 07786064898, and the EA can be contacted on 0800807060 on matters relating to poaching or pollution.

### **Catch returns**

The Committee would also like to remind members, ticket holders and visitors that catch returns are due to be sent to the Honorary Secretary **by the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, (see rule 22).**

This is valuable information and the Committee is looking for your compliance with this matter, and rule 22 will be enforced for the 2017 season – the committee will fine members not sending in returns. It is especially important this year to help us fend off compulsory EA restrictions.

**PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED YOUR 2017 CATCH RETURN. ONLY RETURNS MADE ON THIS FORM WILL BE ACCEPTED. RETURNS VIA EMAIL, VOICEMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA, TEXT, OR SMS MESSAGE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. IF YOU LOSE YOUR CATCH RETURN CONTACT THE HONORARY SECRETARY FOR A REPLACEMENT. FORMS CAN ALSO BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE CLUB WEBSITE.**

Tightlines for the rest of the season.

Nigel Austin

Honorary Secretary.

