

sewin

Pontarddulais & District Angling Association (PAA) Newsletter

Few and far between

Well, we've had the water and the conditions, but only the odd fish has been caught – even hardened regulars are struggling to catch. One lucky angler though, is Vice-Chairman, Lee Walker. Lee caught two 9 pound sewin in a week! Not many anglers can say they've done that – especially at night, on the fly...

I've personally fished some fifteen times, for only one 'shoallie' and I know of one member who has fished over thirty times at night, with not a fish to talk about. Where are they? Yes, there's the odd good fish being caught (mostly salmon at the moment), but for the amount of people fishing, VERY few are being caught. It seems rare to even see or hear fish when you are on the river. Let's hope things will improve from now on – especially with the sewin. Remember though, if you do catch a fish, feel free to e-mail me a picture for our website. Finally, in an attempt to save money, this newsletter will now be e-mailed to those members that have provided e-mail addresses (53 to date). A limited print run will still take place to capture all those that do not have access to computers. Tighlines!

Lyn Davies – Editor and General Secretary (e-mail: lyn@capturedonline.co.uk)

Night Fishing Competition

Friday 5th August

Meet at 9.00pm at McMillan's carpark (Glynhir Ind. Est). All are welcome, as it's an 'any legal method' competition. Please spread the word. Phone Lyn Davies on 07931966444 for further information.

Lampeter Competition

Saturday 24th September

Phone Martin Thomas on 01554 821605 for further information (only the first 25 names considered). **Note:** All competition dates are subject to change depending on the weather and water conditions.

Carnival day

The Committee worked hard to ensure that our association had a presence at Pontarddulais Carnival. Despite the miserable weather, we managed to pocket a small profit. Well done to all involved.

River maintenance

We've been busy working on the river to ensure that you, as a member, have more safe access. Fallen trees have been removed, walkways cleared and new signs have been erected to remind anglers to close gates and avoid walking across hay fields.

Parking Permits

The Committee would like to remind members to always display their parking permits. A number of vehicles have been spotted recently without permits being displayed. We do not want to be forced into noting registration numbers and writing warning letters.

Salmon catches for 2011

There's encouraging signs for another good year for salmon catches on the River Loughor. Check out our 'Gallery' of images on the website. Gary Lewis has taken the largest to date – a cracking 14lb 14oz specimen (shown below). Well done Gary!



Gary Lewis shows off his 14lb 14oz salmon



Pontarddulais and District Angling Association

Out and about... Brown trout on the Loughor



A typical River Loughor Brownie, taken on the dry fly

If you've walked the Loughor lately (especially around dusk), you'd have noticed the amount of brown trout rising – the river seems to be full of them, which is a clear indication of a healthy river.

Sat waiting for darkness to fall, I've often wished I'd had a trout rod to hand. Personally, I enjoy nothing more than flicking tiny dry flies upstream using a tiny 'wand-like' rod – it sharpens your casting skills and is immense fun.

Many trout are caught accidentally (either at night or while spinning or worming during the day), but very few anglers actually target the brown trout. And why not?

Our resident browns are among some of the prettiest I've seen anywhere. Most are around 6-8 inches, but there are larger specimens to be had – some up to a pound or over in weight.

This year committee member (and Welsh International) Rob Evans introduced me to a technique known as 'French leader fishing'. Pioneered by French competition anglers, this method involves 'lobbing' a team of flies upstream using a very long tapered leader – a kind of long-line 'Czech Nymph' technique. Often wading deep to get close to the fish, it's a VERY productive way of winking out trout from water you would normally neglect.

So my advice is to open your mind, and target the brown trout on the fly – you will not be disappointed!

Tiddlers 50/50 (2011)

Winner: No.57 – Sally Walker (July).

Interesting fact: according to 'Kelly's Directory' of 1891...

The River Loughor, once a thriving salmon river is now badly polluted by the chemical and tin plate works.

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for June/July...

Catch and release. Do you really need to kill every fish that you catch? Carry a measuring tape and a camera – capture the moment and feel the buzz of knowing that your fish has been released to fight another day. Try it, it's addictive!