



Current Affairs



Newsletter of Llandysul Angling Association

February 2009



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Edited by Pat O'Reilly, Bwlchwyn, Rhyd Lewis, Llandysul SA44 5RE
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Letter from the Secretary



Dear Members,

Overall it was a good season for the association with few problems. The year has been dominated from my point of view by the By-pass, Abercerdin Bridge (in the early part of the year), the continuing development of the Teifi Rivers Trust, and Canoes. Fishing was variable and it was an indifferent sewin season. High water during the sewin season made fly fishing very difficult. However, for the main salmon runs we had better conditions and some good catches were made: we await with interest the results of the catch returns.

Riparian Owners - access to water.

We have maintained good working relationship with our riparian owners. No complaints have been received. This is important as we depend so much on good will. Everyone has contributed to this excellent state of affairs, and so I thank you all.

Llandysul By-pass

The road works are well advanced. Our main concern is to safeguard Rhydygalfe Pool. The new bridge will pass directly over the main body of the pool and the support buttress will, without doubt, damage it. We will have to monitor the effects of the bridge carefully in the next year or so. We have been denied access to the fishing for the whole of this year by the contractors (we think because of Health and Safety regulations) and we have been active in trying to get compensation for the loss. I'm pleased to say that we have succeeded in getting payment from Carmarthenshire County Council for disruption on the left (Carmarthenshire) bank for 2008. We are making a claim to Cardiganshire for a similar disruption to the right bank and we will repeat the claim for 2009 should we still be denied access - which is extremely likely as the completion date is not until 31/12/2009.

Abercerdin Bridge

I am delighted to report that the new bridge has been completed and was opened in April. I understand that some final protection works are needed and these will be done soon.

Canoes

Much has been written and many emails sent on the subject of canoeists trespassing on club waters throughout England and Wales. We know what the problem is - canoeists want rights to roam wherever they wish. The Welsh Canoeing Association is very active and recently gave a presentation to the Petitions Committee of the Welsh Assembly Government, outlining their case for free access to all water. This is the second time that this petition has been presented. We must be more active otherwise our rights may be lost because of apathy.

Teifi Rivers Trust

We have been keen supporters of the Trust since its formation was first suggested. I can see nothing but good resulting from its success and I have been keen to do what I can on your behalf to assist in its development.

Membership

There is no need to dwell on the importance of membership to any club. We are now about 200 down on our maximum permitted membership of 525. We were losing many more than we gain every year, despite the efforts of Pat through the web site and advertising. However, in the past year we lost 41 members but gained 54. This is the first reverse of the decline for 5 years. The decline in the quality of fishing over recent years is largely to blame, but we still have a worrying situation. This has been discussed in committee and we have concluded that we must maintain our advertising in the *Trout & Salmon* and *Flyfishing and Fly Tying* magazines. Without advertising in 2008 we may have lost members instead of gaining 13. The credit crunch means that in 2009 it will be hard to keep existing members and get new ones; we will continue to advertise.

We are indebted to our vendors. The internet continues to introduce most of the new members, and we must record our thanks to former chairman Pat O'Reilly for looking after this web site so enthusiastically.

New Fishing Water

I'm pleased to say that we were successful in purchasing a five-acre meadow with fishing. We had to pay a lot of money (£40,000) for it, which is probably more than it is worth to anyone else, but we are very pleased as it now gives us a continuous stretch of fishing from Llanfihangel ar Arth Bridge to Llandysul. I doubt if any angling club in Britain can offer such a magnificent stretch of water without breaks. We plan to make a car park in the meadow, as this is an area where we have sadly lacked parking in the past. Members will be able to make use of this vast stretch of fishing with parking at both ends. We are working with the Teifi Rivers Trust to make the meadow more than just a car park.

I cannot finish this letter without thanking members and the committee – especially the chairman - for their support. In particular, I wish to thank Gwilym Jones and Ieuan Thomas for their unstinting support. Without that, it would be impossible to carry out the work of secretary from distance. I also wish to thank Eric Davies and Peter Jones for the efforts they have made to look after the youngsters of the club and, indeed, of the surrounding area. The combined effort of running the summer tuition days, the autumn visits and the winter fly dressing courses has to be admired.

May I wish you all a successful season in 2009 - it will soon be with us!

Yours sincerely,

Tonlas Evans,
Hon Secretary

Report from the Annual General Meeting

The 2008 AGM was held at The Porth Hotel on Friday 5th December. Our president, Dr David Roberts, chaired the meeting. The achievements of our younger members in their summer flyfishing lessons were highlighted, and the Tom Howells Memorial Shield was presented to Trystan Davies for outstanding casting during the 2008 tuition sessions. For more details please see the Junior Tuition section on page 11.

The Hirons Trophy, awarded for the best migratory fish caught on a fly, was won by David Williams with a superb 17 lb salmon.

Left: David Williams with the superb salmon that won for him the Hirons Trophy.



Reports were received from the secretary (see pages 2 and 3), the treasurer (see page 5) and the chairman (see page 7). These reports were all accepted by the meeting.

Membership Subscriptions for 2009

The AGM debated the merits and demerits of the club's long-standing policy of raising permit fees only in line with inflation. While concern was expressed that when short of money or even made redundant any increase in fees could result in some members deciding to drop out of the club, the meeting was also reminded that many miles of our fishing, especially on the upper beats, are still rented rather than owned; the cost of purchasing just one major beat could wipe out our bank balance. The AGM decided overwhelmingly to retain the modest price increase necessary to keep up with inflation.

The agreed membership prices for the coming season are as follows:

- | | |
|--|------|
| ➤ Adult full membership | £149 |
| ➤ Pensioner member (at least five years as a full member to qualify) | £74 |
| ➤ Severely Disabled (Tyr Dref beat only) | £10 |
| ➤ Joining fee (adults only) | £15 |
| ➤ Student membership | £43 |
| ➤ Junior (schoolchild) trout fishing membership | £2 |
| ➤ Weekly permit up to 31st August | £67 |
| ➤ Weekly permit, 1 st September to 17 th October | £77 |
| ➤ Guest day permit (and introductory day visitor - only to 31st Aug) | £18 |

(NB: Please remember that new rod licences are required from 1st April 2009.)

Election of Officers and Committee

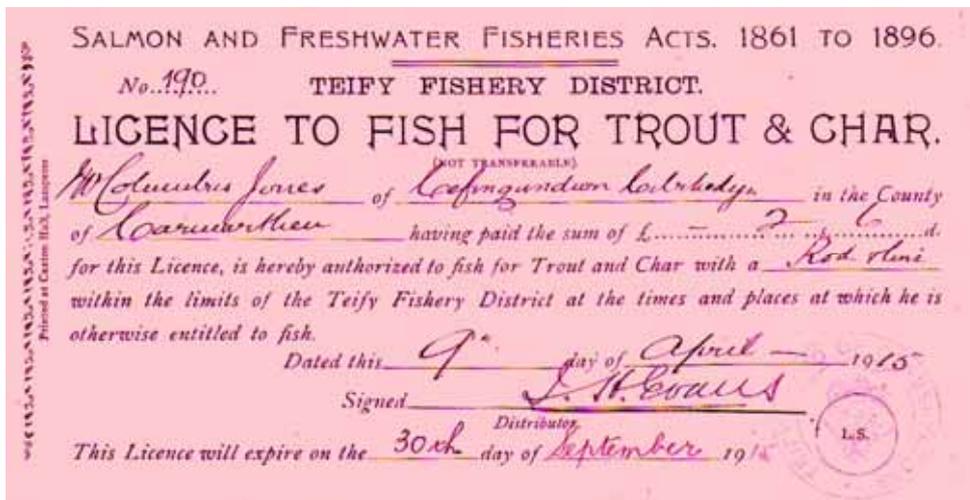
In accordance with club rules, one third of the committee membership stood down All had expressed a willingness to continue to serve on committee. Because there were no other applications they were re-elected to serve during 2008. The chairman, secretary and treasurer were also re-elected for the year ahead.

Financial Report on Accounts for the year to October 31st, 2008

We were very pleased to present a good set of accounts to members at the AGM. As most people cannot get to the AGM here is a brief summary: The surplus of income over expenditure before taxation was £27,342 - up from £7,178 in 2007, when we had major costs associated with registering our waters. Our Balance Sheet at 31/10/2008 was also very good. Our Net Assets were £859,173 which included cash assets of £157,235. Our fixed assets stand at £699,270 but do remember that these assets (fishing waters) are valued at their cost at the time of purchase. I'm sure you are happy that the committee is looking after your Association so well. (The AGM accepted the treasurer's report.)

Good value for Half a Crown

Club member Colin Davies, from Twickenham, has sent us a photocopy of a Teify (note the old spelling) Fisheries District licence issued 94 years ago. Many thanks, Colin.



What a grand name, Columbus Jones! Colin wonders whether there are still char in the Teifi. The only char I have ever caught on the River Teifi were Canadian Brook Trout; these are in fact char and not trout, but they are not native to this part of the world, and they must have been hatchery escapees. I understand that one of the lakes in the Teifi Pools complex may have contained Arctic char (and perhaps it still does). Does anyone have information on this? If so please get in touch with the editor – contact details on page 16 – and we will include an update in the Summer Newsletter.

Club Membership – Two Application Forms Again!

These are difficult times for many of us. We know that some people will inevitably give up fishing to reduce their outgoings. Please help your club by doing all you can to recruit a friend or acquaintance so that we can maintain our membership and fund the bank maintenance and other work that is necessary to run the club properly.



Church Farm fishery, now accessible both via Cwm Mackwith and from the bridge at Llanfihangel ar Arth, where we intend to create a new car park.

The club will of course be advertising for new members via the game angling press but advertising is never as effective as other more personal means of recruiting new members. This year more than ever **the club really needs your help**. As an existing member of Llandysul Angling Association, you are in the very best position to inform potential new members of the wealth of fishing opportunity that our club has to offer. For this reason, we are again enclosing **TWO** application forms with this Newsletter and we urge you to give one of them to a friend or fishing acquaintance and recommend that they at least come and visit our waters or, better still, sign up for full membership this season.

Limiting Pressure on Club Waters

We have more fishing than ever before, but we still want it to be easy for our members to find a quiet stretch of river when they want to, and we will not subject it to excessive fishing pressure. For that reason there is a **strict upper limit on membership**; however, we are well below that limit and our annual income is now restricting what we can achieve. Thank you in anticipation of your much-valued help.

Llandysul A A's Permit Vendors

Club permits as well as Day Tickets and Week Tickets, may be obtained from:

- Andrew James, The Port Hotel Llandysul SA44 5QS - Tel: 01559 362202
- Alan Williams, 57 Bridge Street, Lampeter SA48 7AB - Tel: 01570 434313



Chairman's Report

It really feels like the darkest depth of winter at the moment, having been frozen solid for the past two weeks – I will definitely have to try and fatten up as it feels as though I do not have enough personal insulation at the moment. However, I will soon be in my winter paradise enjoying some skiing and French cuisine, so there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

I enjoyed last season, although it was all spinning with the deadly rapala, but it seemed to suit my style. The river seemed to hit top form in the first week of July and continued until the end of the season, as far as salmon were concerned, but our sewin seemed to disappear in the constant flood water. We probably lost about six weeks of the season owing to excess water, but some good sewin were caught before the deluge started in earnest. There were also a fair few big salmon taken, and it was very heartening to see such a good stock of fish in the river in October. We did not get much fly fishing for sewin but there is always next season for those of you who favour this pursuit. I like my sleep too much these days for late night sessions. June has always been my favourite sewin month, which means starting fishing at about 11pm, so I am not as keen as I used to be.

There were no major controversies at the AGM and the committee has functioned well. We are delighted to confirm the purchase of the field adjoining Llanfihangel Bridge, and will be developing the field in partnership with Teifi Rivers Trust to include a car park in time for next season, we hope; however, it has transpired that we will need planning permission and I fear this could cause considerable delay.

The Trust has progressed well this year, delivering habitat improvement schemes on the Teifi tributaries Clettwr and Ceri, invertebrate monitoring, website development, training for invertebrate sampling and associated activities. We hope to go from strength to strength in 2009. We are pleased to welcome Geoff Liles to the team and are benefiting from his expertise and enthusiasm. Many thanks to all those of you who devote some of your precious time to the cause. The Teifi Fisherman's Federation also continues to meet regularly, helping to build our relationship with the Environment Agency and consequently the Trust, and maintaining a dialogue between the major angling clubs on the Teifi. It may be worth a reminder that the TFF is running a voluntary catch and release scheme via our very own Mr Andrew Howells, who would appreciate your responses.

The bypass will continue to be a problem next season but, if it is any consolation, we have extracted a substantial sum in compensation for the inconvenience caused, which will be repeated this year, Even if I do say so myself, I think we did well. And on that smug note, I will sign off for now and look forward to seeing you on the banks of the Teifi in 2009.

Ian Thomas, Chairman

2009 Fishing Season Dates

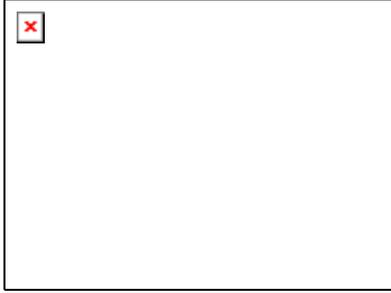
Members and visitors may fish for trout on beats above Lampeter Bridge from 3rd March. All other beats open on 1st April for trout, salmon and sea trout. The trout-fishing season on all our beats closes on 30th September, while salmon and sea trout fishing continues until 17th October (the last ten days being fly and spinner only). Those are statutory season dates and method restrictions. Please note that some of our waters are designated 'fly only' and that for stock conservation reasons the club applies other method/time restrictions, which are fully explained in the Llandysul A A Rules booklet. If you have mislaid your Rules booklet, please send for a free replacement (but remember to enclose a SAE) to: Llandysul A A, Room 101, The Porth Hotel, Llandysul SA44 4QS.

Well done lads!



Emyr Langley kindly sent through this picture of a specimen brown trout caught by junior members Josh and Dan, from Pencader. This fine trout came from beat 11 in June 2008.

Junior Members' News and Events



Our 2008 summer tuition was another success, the first session on the 1st of August was filmed by S4C and later shown on *Ar y Ffeil* and the Welsh News. It was disappointing for the youngsters not to be able to put into practice their casting skills as the river ran high throughout August. However the fly-tying lessons took place supervised by Peter Jones, with invertebrate examination and river craft and safety by Ieuan Thomas and Ron Foulkes. The casting coaching was given by Dion Davies, Eirig

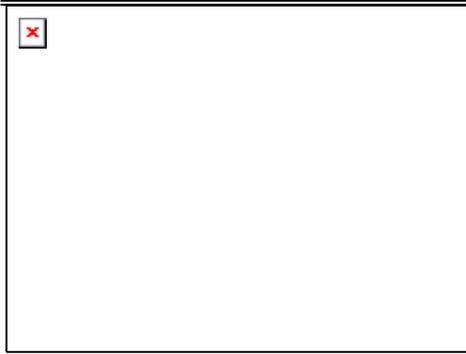
Thomas and Stuart Stradling and the distance and accuracy competition on the 29th, was judged by Mary Jones, Dion Davies and Stewart Stradling. Thanks to you all. The first four were Trystan Davies, Jordan Evans, Dafydd Davies and Steffan Rees. Da iawn chi.



Participants in the summer lessons of 2008

The four youngsters entered for the Welsh Youth trials were Trystan Davies, Dafydd Davies, Steffan Rees and Joshua Broniman, who gave a good account of themselves. Steffan Rees qualified as first reserve - one fish in Llysyfran would have secured him a place in the team. Many thanks to boatmen Dewi Roberts and David Williams.

The first Catch Measure and Release competition was held on the 5th of August and by overwhelming demand the second competition was held on the 2nd of September. On both occasions the river was rather high and coloured; however fish were caught.



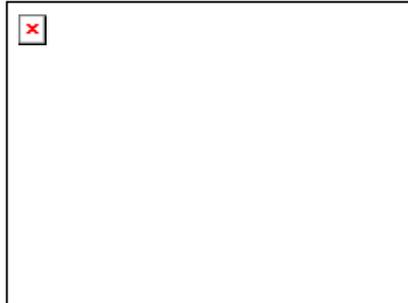
Our champion young fisherman for 2008 is Jordan Evans (Pictured left receiving his award from Dr David Roberts at the AGM). Dafydd Davies came second and Trystan Davies and Daniel Owens shared third place. Jordan Evans caught the longest fish; a wild brown trout of 31.5 cm. We are grateful to Charles Davies Abercerdin for allowing us the use of his paddock by Pont Ieu. Many thanks to the Club and to club member Anthony Martin for donating the prizes. Thanks also to Dion Davies, Peter

Jones, Ieuan Thomas, Ron Foulkes, Stewart Stradling, Gwilym Jones, David Williams, Eirig Thomas and Dewi Roberts as controllers, and Andrew and Louise James The Porth Hotel for preparing the buffet and allowing us the use of the telly to show videos of the events.

Important dates for 2009

25th April, 2pm in Llandysul Park: Distance and accuracy competition for club members under 17, to find four fishermen to be sponsored by the club in 2009 Welsh Youth Trials
19th May at 6pm by Pont Ieu: First under 16 Catch, Measure and Release competition
30th May at Llandegfedd Reservoir: First Youth Trial
31st July, 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th August, Landysul Park: Summer tuition 2pm to 5pm
7th August at Llandegfedd Reservoir: Youth International.
11th August at Pont Ieu: Second under 16 Catch, Measure & Release competition,
28th August, 2pm – 5pm Summer tuition + under 16 distance and accuracy competition
5th September at Trawsfynydd: Second Youth Trial.

Entrants for the under-16 CM&R fly-fishing competition must be members of Llandysul Angling Association and must be accompanied by an adult family member or members. Meet by Pont Ieu (the new suspension bridge) at 6-00p.m. Tackle will be supplied to those who need it, but bring your own eye protection, wellies, waterproofs (if it is raining), rod licence if you are over 12, and your club permit. Competitors can be helped with anything except the casting.



After the competition we shall retire to the Porth Hotel for a light buffet. The winners will receive tackle and fly-tying materials as prizes. If there is doubt as to the staging of these events because of bad weather, please ring me on 01559 362485.

The summer flyfishing lessons are all free of charge and also available to non members. Please direct any enquires to me on 01559 362485. Tight lines! *Eric Davies*

Wildlife Corner: Those Big Brown Birds

The upper Teifi Valley (and latterly the whole of the valley) and a few other parts of the Cambrian Mountains region of Wales have gained renown for the remarkable recovery of the red kite population in the last fifty years. Before World War II these magnificent birds seemed doomed – not to total extinction, because there are plenty in parts of mainland Europe, but at least destined no longer to brighten our days in the countryside. Their gliding flights are a magnificent sight - one of the many joys of a day on the River Teifi.



There are now more than 400 pairs of red kites in Wales. In what must be one of the most successful wildlife conservation projects ever, helped by initial imports from Spain, Germany and Sweden self-sustaining populations have now been reintroduced to parts of England and Scotland.

Another big brown bird that we see plenty of is the buzzard, sometimes wheeling on thermals but even more often perched patiently upon telegraph poles waiting for a collision between a car and a bird, a small mammal or anything else that could provide a free meal. Buzzards are rather variable in their colour tones, but their unforked tails and persistent mewling calls are enough to distinguish them from red kites.



With a wingspan of up to five feet (not quite as big as a kite) the buzzard is an impressive bird, especially at close quarters. Being a slow flier, it is not good at catching its prey on the move, but buzzards are patient. Perched among tree branches their mottled plumage provides excellent camouflage, until a mouse or some other small creature appears; then they swoop like hawks... but of course, buzzards are hawks.

Competition News - Pysgotwyr Plu Llandysul

Spring Competition, Llys y Fran Reservoir, Sunday 4th May 2008: Fourteen anglers caught 36 rainbow trout for 62 lb 7oz. The first six, who qualified for the opportunity to attend the Wales International trials in 2009, were: David Williams (6 fish; 14 lb 5 oz), Geoff Thompson (6 fish; 13 lb), Ian Thomas (5 fish; 8 lb 2oz), Eric Davies (4 fish; 7 lb 12 oz), Simon Jones (3 fish; 6 lb 1 oz), and Ray Coles (4 fish; 5 lb 03 oz). Seventh and Eighth positions were taken by Ron Foulkes (3 fish; 3lb 12 oz) and Eirig Thomas (1 fish; 1 lb 9 oz). The heaviest fish was caught by David Williams (5 lb 2 oz).

**Autumn Competition,
Brenig Reservoir,
Sunday 13th July 2008:**

Twelve anglers caught 24 rainbow trout for 62 lb 2 oz. The first six, who qualified for the opportunity to attend the Wales International trials in 2009 were: William Mains (6 fish; 20 lb 4 oz), Geoff Thompson (6 fish; 15 lb), Dewi Roberts (2 fish; 5 lb 12 oz), Dion Davies (4 fish; 4 lb 4 oz),



Eric Davies (2 fish; 4 lb 2 oz) and David Williams (1 fish; 2 lb). Seventh and eighth positions were taken by Ian Thomas (1 fish; 1 lb 12 oz) and Ron Foulkes (1 fish; 1 lb). William Mains (5lb 1 oz) and Geoff Thompson (4 lb 04 oz) caught the heaviest fish. Junior member Lleucu Mains was very successful bringing 2 fish to the boat (4 lb 13 oz).

Evening Sewin Event: Fewer members than usual entered the Wednesday evening event this year. Night- time fishing was practically non-existent due to the constant high water.

Molly Sweet / Half Moon Cup Competition Llyn Clywedog, End of September 2008:

Five club members took part. Team A - David Williams and Eric and Dion Davies. Team B – Eirig Thomas, Geoff Thompson and another recruit from Llanidloes area. It was fairly mild with some sunshine and the usual horizontal rain towards the end of the day.

World and Commonwealth Competitions: Eric and Dion Davies travelled to New Zealand to take part in the World & Commonwealth competition for the Wales team in 2008. They have also qualified to represent Wales in the Commonwealth Competition again this year. The qualifying round for the 2009 team took place in Elan Valley reservoir. Eric was placed 3rd out of 55 anglers (With a catch of 12 brown trout) and took first position for the team. The event is to be held in the Isle of Islay. Club member Geoffrey Thompson will be representing Wales in the World competition this year.

Youth Competition: Eric Davies made arrangements for a Youth Competition event on the Teifi in September. There was a good turnout, and around 8 youngsters (Aged 9 to 14 - accompanied by their parents or other carers) fished an evening session. First place went to Jordan Evans. Dafydd Davies took second position. Eric also made arrangements for some of the youngsters (Brothers -Dafydd and Trystan Davies, Steffan Rees and Joshua Broneman) to attend the youth (WSTA) trials at Llandegfedd and Llys y Fran reservoirs. Steffan Rees took 15th position in the youth trials competition and will be the first reserve for the Wales youth team in 2009. The summer casting school events held on Ty'r Dref waters were held again in 2008. Many thanks to Eric and Dion Davies and Peter Jones and other volunteer helpers for their efforts on behalf of Llandysul AA.

Club Competition dates for 2009

Competition	Venue	Date	Comments
Spring.	Llys-y-Fran Reservoir, Pembs.	Sunday 10 May.	Boat fishing (pairs) to qualify for 2010 Welsh National trials.
Youth.	Llandysul Park/sports field	2pm on 25 April.	Casting competition to qualify for the 2009 Welsh Youth Trials
Autumn.	Llyn Brenig, Cerrigydrudion, Clwyd.	Sunday 6 September.	Boat fishing (pairs) to qualify for 2010 Welsh National trials.
Evening sewin fishing.	River Teifi, club waters only.	Wednesday evenings, 20 May to 26 August.	Report to Porth Hotel before and after fishing. Entry fee of £5.
Molly Sweet / Half Moon Cup.	Llyn Clywedog, Powys.	Sunday 4 October.	Bank fishing. Teams of 3 or 6 anglers.

Competitions Dinner 2009

Shields and cups for heaviest bags and heaviest fish are presented at the annual competition dinner. A competition meeting / buffet and presentations will be held in the Porth Hotel, Llandysul, on Saturday 17 October 2009. It is possible that arrangements will be made to hold a fly fishing (from boat) competition between Teifi Trout and Llandysul Angling Associations at the Llys y Fran Reservoir. No firm arrangements have been made to date.

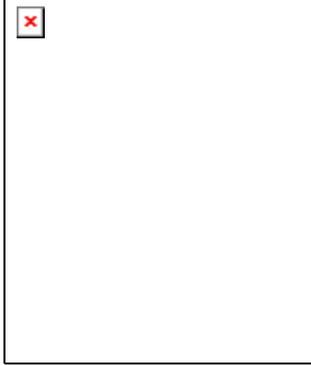
Members, wishing to take part in this year' competitions, should send details (Name, address and phone number) to me at Crannog, Heol-y-Gilfach, Llandysul, Ceredigion SA44 4HW. I may be contacted by phone on (01559) 362659 (evenings and weekends). Alternatively you may email me via: dewifr@dsl.pipex.com

Many thanks for your support, and best wishes for a successful season,

Dewi Roberts, Competitions Secretary

Spey Casts – Why Bother?

Sue Parker discusses the benefits of these versatile ‘continuous motion’ casts.



I have lost count of the times I have crept carefully into position to make that perfect overhead cast to a trout rising on the far side of the stream and... tightened into the ash tree behind me instead of the trout in front of me. Ring any bells with you?

On those dark sea trout-nights the problem of playing catch and release with trees soon becomes a game of find the right tree first!

Fortunately there is an answer...

Spey casting completely eliminates the need for the fly line to travel behind you before launching the forward cast; instead it lands on the water beside you, and the surface tension on the line loads the rod for the forward cast. The line remains in front or beside you at all times.

Since becoming a casting instructor and moving back to Wales I have spent a lot of time teaching people to spey cast with single and double-handed rods. I have particularly enjoyed the stories, from anglers who have mastered the technique, of fish they have caught from places that they could not possibly have reached with an overhead cast.



A single-spey cast with a trout rod lets Sue cover fish fifteen yards out when just a couple of yards behind her willow trees are waiting to grab flies on the back cast.

See page 15 for your opportunity to master spey casting with Llandysul A A

Welcome Day Saturday 9th May 2009

Near the start of the season, we are delighted to be able to provide help to new members and others who have not yet found their way around all of our thirty miles of fishing on the Teifi. This year our **Spring Welcome Day is on Saturday 9th May**. Our Welcome Days provide opportunities for new members and visitors to meet local anglers who know the river well; to see some of the beats and have a free casting lesson; to attend illustrated talks about the wildlife and fishing on our river, and to join in the question-and-answer sessions. There are also opportunities to talk with accommodation providers and others who can help make your visits to the Teifi Valley even more enjoyable.

Provisional timetable for Welcome Day, Saturday 9 th May 2009	
11-30am	Meet committee, accommodation providers and local members at The Porth Hotel, Llandysul. (Coffee and biscuits are provided.) Illustrated talk about the fisheries and wildlife of the Teifi Valley.
12-30pm	Fishers' Forum: put your questions to a panel of local experts.
1-15pm approx.	Lunch will be available at The Porth Hotel (but please phone Andrew or Louise on 01559 362202 to make a reservation).
2-15pm	Casting demonstration by qualified flyfishing instructors at our Tyr Dref fishing beat in Llandysul (just a 250-yard walk from The Porth Hotel).
2-45pm	Guided visits to several of the Llandysul A A fisheries, with opportunities to discuss tackle, techniques and tactics with successful local anglers.
6-30pm	Dinner. (If you would like to eat at The Porth Hotel, please phone Andrew or Louise on 01559 362202 to make a reservation.)
8-00pm onwards	For those who so wish, fishing on club waters for full members; Day permits or 'noon Saturday to noon Sunday' permits are available at £18.

How can I take part and what will it cost?

All are welcome to take part in the Welcome Day events. Apart from the fishing session in the evening, **it is not necessary to be a member** or even to hold a visitor permit. Other than your accommodation and meals, **everything is free of charge**, so do please join us if you possibly can make it.

Spey Casting Tuition

On May 10th (the day after our Welcome Day) Llandysul Angling Association is running a 'Learn to Spey Cast Day' when Pat O'Reilly and Sue Parker will be on hand to demonstrate and teach the technique with both single and double-handed rods. The event is **limited to eight places only** and will cover casting from both banks of the river. The cost of the day, which includes dinner (on night of Sat 9th May), B and B and lunch (on 10th) at the Porth Hotel, and a 24 hour ticket to fish the Teifi is £118 (LAA members pay just £100). If you would like to join us, please call Andrew at the Porth Hotel on 01559 362202 to book ASAP. We can arrange the loan of double-handed rods if requested.

Membership Renewals and Catch Returns

Membership of Llandysul A A cannot be renewed until you have submitted a catch return for the previous season. The closing date for Association catch returns is 1st February; thereafter a £10 surcharge is payable on top of the normal renewal fee. Most members send in their returns as soon as the season ends, and their names are entered into our annual Prize Draw. Why risk losing £10 when you could be £25 better off? (The winner of the 2007 Catch Return Draw will be announced in the autumn edition of *Current Affairs*.)

A reply-paid catch return card for 2009 will be supplied with your new season permit. This is for **recording your catch as the 2009 season progresses**; please post it to us at the end of the season. Members who, having completed the form that is included with this newsletter, send in or take their subscriptions to one of our permit vendors will receive their 2009 fishing permits and catch return cards in time for the start of the new season.

Footnote from the Editor



I am grateful to Eric Davies, Tonlas Evans, Bill Ritson, Colin Davies, Emyr Langley, Sue Parker, Dewi Roberts and Ian Thomas, all of whom contributed articles and/or pictures to this edition of *Current Affairs*. As usual any mistakes in design, layout or editing are all my own work!

If there is something you would particularly like us to include in a future *Current Affairs*, please let us know. Contributions, including pictures, from members can either be posted to the address below or emailed to

laa-enquiries@fishing-in-wales.com

Best wishes for safe fishing, great fun and lots of success on the River Teifi during the forthcoming 2009 season.

Yours sincerely

Pat O'Reilly

Current Affairs

Current Affairs is published twice per year by Llandysul Angling Association. Copies are sent to club members and to people applying for membership.

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