



Ogmore Angling Association Ltd
Pre-season newsletter 2012



www.ogmoreangling.com



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Dear member,

As I type out yet another newsletter, I can scarcely believe that it is five years since I have been the Association's Secretary. Despite the Association going through its ups and down during this period it has been a privilege to have been elected by you the members and the Committee to carry out this duty.

From a fishing point of view it has been a very strange period, with there being the hottest, driest and wettest summers on record coupled with the coldest and mildest winters on record. Certainly this winter our migratory fish did know what time of year it was during a very mild spawning period with sporadic spawning over a longer period than usual.

Sea trout catches have once again been a concern in 2011 with low numbers of larger sewin. It was however pleasing to hear reports of large numbers of juvenile fish being caught which are believed to be the first 'returners' of our brood stocking programme. Salmon catches continue to increase on the Ogmore and it certainly cannot be said as in the past that the Ogmore is a sewin river with a token run of salmon.

We will continue during 2012 to ensure that water quality is maintained on the system along with continuing our pressure on the powers to be to provide an increased enforcement provision on our waters.

BIG FISH 2011

There have been some notable catches during the season and our trophy winners are as follows:

Adult category: Biggest Brown Trout - Paul Embley 4lb 15oz. Biggest salmon - Andrew Davies 15lb. Biggest Sewin - Matthew

Pritchard 15lb. Junior category: Biggest Brown Trout - Ethan Saunders 1lb12oz. Biggest Salmon - Carwyn Bailey 10lb 2oz. Biggest Sewin - Nathan Morris 4lb.

SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The fees for 2012 have been held at last season's prices, with the adult fee being held at £80 for the third season in succession. I will however give advance notice to members of a likely increase to fees for the 2013 season.

BYELAWS

The byelaws for 2012 have been overhauled and drastically amended. The committee have been conscious for sometime that the byelaws were overcomplicated and not easy to follow. We have now separated the Company rules and the fishing byelaws into two separate formats. Members will be provided with these when they renew their membership.

ENFORCEMENT

The Association's team of Bailiffs have had a very busy time throughout the season and spawning period. There have been several high impact incidents detected particularly on the lower reaches. Our team have been working closely with the Environment Agency Bailiffs and providing valuable reports and intelligence. Several illegal anglers and canoeists have been ejected from our waters with tackle being confiscated. Our gratitude must go to all those who volunteer themselves, especially our Head Bailiff Andrew Davies who has spent an extraordinary amount of time on the riverbank during the year. All of our bailiffs numbers are listed on the reverse of your 2012 permit. I would encourage you to call them should you witness suspicious activity

RIVER CLEAN UPS

It has been clear for sometime that our monthly clean ups have not been supported by the membership with dwindling numbers of members attending. The format for clean ups during 2012 will change in that there will be four events meeting at four locations. As a further incentive, breakfast and coffee will be provided at some of the events which are as follows:

Sunday March 18th - The Dipping Bridge 9.30am
(members are invited to attend the Ewenny Pottery Café from 9am prior to the clean up for refreshments)

Sunday April 8th - Old Embassy car park 9.30am
(members are invited to attend from 9.00am for tea/coffee)

Sunday May 13th - Swanee Bridge, Pen Y Fai 9.30am
(members are invited to attend at 9.00am for tea/coffee)

Sunday September 16th - Blackmill Square 9.30am
(members are invited to attend the Smithy café from 9am for refreshments prior to the clean up)

We sincerely hope that all members will support these events. If there is inadequate support this year, the Committee will consider suspending organised clean ups from the 2013 season.

FLY TYERS WINTER TRIP

Nineteen of our winter fly tyers attended Glyn-cowrrwg Ponds on the 17th December for their annual competition. All members caught their limit of 3 fish. The largest fish on the day was caught by the oldest participant Mr Bill Leonard, a massive fish weighing in at 19lb 5oz. The next heaviest fish was caught by the youngest participant Adam Evans at 14lb 8oz (pictured).

BROOD STOCKING

7500 Sewin parr were stocked during November at Blackmill as a result of our brood stock collection from the 2010 season. Fish donated during last season have produced approximately 7000 eggs for stocking at the end of the year. If you wish to participate in the brood stocking programme, please contact Mark Ryan whose number is included on your permit. Continued thanks to Mark who has collected, stored and transported fish to the hatchery and to our members who have donated fish throughout the season.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee has bestowed honorary life membership to former Chairman Mr Graham Morgan. Graham was Chairman through the most difficult period of our history. Graham in

the past year has been suffering from ill health and the Committee on behalf of the Association would like to convey our thoughts and very best wishes to Graham.

CHAIRMAN

I am sad to report that our Chairman Adrian Curnock has decided to step down from his position with immediate effect due to pressures of work. Adrian has been on the Committee for over ten years initially as Head Bailiff. Although Adrian will not be taking an active role on the Committee, he will be retained as an adviser when required due to his encyclopedic knowledge of the Association and our historic rights. Many thanks to Adrian for the hard work he has carried out for the Association during this time. The Committee has appointed Mr Ian Fynlas as the new Chairman. Ian has been a member of the Association for most of his life and his particular area of interest is invertebrate sampling and water quality.

FINALLY...

I would like to wish members a successful 2012 season. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

Wynne Griffiths (Hon Secretary)

secretary@ogmoreangling.com

Pictured Below: Bill and Adam with their catches from Glyn-cowrrwg Ponds.

