



A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS

December 2020

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Ticket prices

The Committee has decided to hold annual subscriptions at the same level as last year. This recognises the fact that for 2 months of the season fishing was prohibited. We hope that by holding the subscriptions down for another year our membership numbers will stabilise or improve.

Please do support your club because without your membership it will not survive. Application forms for the 2021 Season are enclosed with this newsletter.

Full Membership (March - November 2021)

Adult	£100.00
Registered disabled	£85.00
Junior (up to 17 year)	£15.00
Life membership (after 3 years membership)	£1,250.00
Joining fee for new members	£20.00
New members under 17 years- 1st year	£ FREE

Weekly Visitor Tickets

Adult £70.00 Junior £15.00

Day Visitor Tickets

Adults £20.00 Junior £7.50

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS (with a SAE ***and*** last season's catch return) directly to Trevor Sobey, (Honorary

Treasurer), Higher Trevartha Farm, Pengover, Liskeard, PL14 3NJ; before 1st April 2021 or attend the AGM on 9th February 2021.

Please note that members who do not renew before 1st April 2021 will be required to pay the Club joining fee again.

AGM Invitation

All current members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Liskeard and District Angling Club on 9th February 2021 – starting at 19:30hrs - Constitutional Club, 9 Market St, Liskeard, PL14 3JH - in the upstairs meeting room. The AGM meeting will of course be subject to any Covid-19 restrictions in force at the time. In the event that the AGM has to be cancelled applications for next season must be posted to the Treasurer before 1st April 2021. Details can be found above.

Pay your subscriptions, collect your 2021 season ticket, hear about the club's news, (possibly) win a prize in the raffle, listen to the guest speaker, have your say and meet other members and the Committee. Perhaps even stand for the Committee?

Club Trophies

Members are encouraged to submit catches that could qualify under one of the four categories: the Brown trout, Sea trout, Salmon and Junior Achievement. We also welcome nominations for the Lynher contribution trophy. The current trophy holders are listed below.

	2020 Holder	All Time Record
Salmon	D White 15lb 8oz	J Hawken 28lb 0oz
Sea Trout	A Bruce 21lb 0oz	G Bruce 21lb 0oz*
Brown Trout	Not awarded	G Hake 4lb 1oz
Lynher	G Hake	
Junior	Not awarded	

*New club record

There is a submittal form at the end this newsletter – or you can download one from the Club website.

Please note all entries must be received by 31st December 2020 for 2021 awards.

Sustaining fishing stocks

We are pleased to report that our members have wholeheartedly supported the annual catch/release and fishing method measures to help sustain stocks.

The measures have been reviewed by the Committee, the FRA and EA and are considered by all to be having a positive effect.

There are therefore ***no*** new measures being implemented for the 2021 season. However, current rules and regulations remain in force.

A copy of all the rivers' rules can be found on the LDAC website or contact the Secretary if you need a paper copy.

Lost and Found

Don't forget to contact the Honorary Secretary at secretary@ldac.org.uk if you have either lost or found any item on the clubs' waters. We do attempt to reunite any items reported to their rightful owners.

Chairman's update

The 2020 season was certainly different.

Instead of reporting low water levels I find myself reporting that we had to close the rivers for 8 prime fishing weeks as the lockdown prevented us from going fishing early in the season.

However, once we were allowed to re-open the fishing was decidedly good.

River levels were the best they had been for a number of years and sea trout were more abundant. By early summer salmon were being reported across all beats and catches were encouraging.

This was reinforced with good counter figures being reported for the Fowey. At the time of writing sea trout and salmon numbers have recovered to being close to the 10-year average. This was particularly gratifying as the 2019 reports had been somewhat less encouraging.

Whilst river levels are clearly of paramount importance for catching fish the rivers we fish are clearly responding positively to our efforts to sustain stocks.

- ***Beat and in-river management*** is really important and, in this regard I would encourage you all to attend at least one work party, even if it is only for your favourite beat. It really makes a difference.
- ***Conservation measures:*** I would like to thank the membership for responding positively to our new rules and regulations. They again seem to be contributing to improving our sport. No additional rules are being considered.
- ***Hatcheries:*** Finally we must not overlook the important work carried out by the staff and volunteers at our two hatcheries. That work is also bearing fruit. Both 2019 and 2020 saw fin-clipped fish caught on the Fowey and I would urge you to report such catches directly to the EA. Forms can be downloaded from the FRA website and further details are to be found in the Section on the Colliford Hatchery. The Lynher hatchery is not allowed to fin clip but any such fish caught there are most likely to be Tamar fish, clipped by the EA.

Sadly we continue to face difficult times financially; an ageing membership and a decline in younger people taking up the sport means that we have needed to take some hard decisions about the future.

We have had to relinquish two leases on more distant and smaller waters and will concentrate our efforts and funding on the main rivers. To this end we are dropping both the Inny (Beat 19) and

West Looe (Beat 20) in 2021. However, we are pleased to be able to report to you that we managed to lease another stretch of the Fowey at Wainsford. This new beat (Middle Boconnoc; 8B) joins up with the Lower Boconnoc Beat (8A) and provides an uninterrupted stretch downstream (LHB) from Wainsford Bridge. I do hope you enjoy fishing it.

Another wet autumn with heavy rainfall and high winds have meant that there is a need for work to be carried out on many of our beats, to clear trees and debris and make repairs to our bridges and stiles. Much of this work will be carried out during our "Bank Clearance" days and a timetable of dates/locations is printed in this newsletter. Please come along and help out.

Finally I would like to thank our Secretary Paul Jordan for all his hard work in putting the Newsletter together and to all members of the Committee for their continued hard work and support in what has been a challenging period.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

I hope to see many of you at the AGM (rules permitting) when we can bring you up to date in more detail.

Rob Williams

Work Party Incentive Scheme

The incentive programme is in place and members are using this to introduce guests and friends to our waters. There are opportunities to get a free visitor ticket in 2021 so you can take a friend fishing for a day on the Club's waters at no cost.

When you qualify for this please do contact the Honorary Secretary so you can get a permit to take your guest fishing (at secretary@ldac.org.uk).

Working Party Dates 2021

In the hope that 2021 will see a return to more normal times the 2021 work party plans are published below. Meet at beat entry point at 10.00 hrs to participate

Lynher

- Sunday 17th January Wotton/Pillaton Mill
- Sunday 31st January Kingfisher
- Sunday 2^{1st} February Dogleg

Fowey

- Sunday 24th January Middle Boconnoc Beat/Wainsford
- Sunday 7^h February Doublebois Bridge
- Sunday 28rd February Upper Boconnoc

A38 Night Closures (TBA): Org: R Williams

Secretary's report

Well, what a year that was. Perhaps that's enough said and we should just move on?

The Covid-19 pandemic is still with us at the time of writing. Yet there seems to be some light at the end of the tunnel this time and we are hoping that 2021 will bring some much needed normality back into our lives.

The Covid-19 crisis obviously had an immediate and deep impact on the Club. In line with national regulations and being aware of our riparian owners needs, guidance from our Insurers and from the Angling Trust the Club had to close all rivers to fishing on 23rd March 2020.

The last time fishing had been banned was during the foot and mouth crisis in 2001. Since then I, and many others had taken for granted that we could go out fishing whenever we wanted to. Then, all of a sudden we couldn't - and the need to go seemed ever more urgent.

The lesson to be learned here is that we should go fishing whenever we can...don't put it off because you never know what's around the corner!

Not only did we struggle with not being able to go fishing but the Committee was effectively stopped *dead in its tracks* with planned meetings in April, July and November all being cancelled as a result of the moratorium on groups' gathering. Thank goodness for the internet.....

Committee decisions still needed to be made during the year and the first of these was the decision, made with a grateful sigh of relief, to re-open LDAC waters on May 13th.

Since that time catch reports (and Fowey counter figures) seem to be showing that the 2020 season, although short, is going to be much better than 2019 was (see 2019 Catch Summary in next Section).

Further good news for 2020 was that the Club had been able to secure a lease for the Middle Boconnoc Beat (now called 8B) on the River Fowey. This beat extends on the LHB downstream from Wainsford Bridge and joins up with the Lower (Wheelpit) Beat (8A) further downstream. We hope that members will enjoy fishing this new stretch. Details can be found on the Idac website - under maps tab.

However, with good news there is regrettably always some bad news.

Despite our best efforts, and no doubt influenced by the poor catches in 2019 and the delay to the start of the season in 2020 membership numbers have continued to fall. The Treasurer provides more details about the impact of this in his report but a further reduction of 8% in numbers is reported.

The reality is that membership dues provide the only income for the Club, which is then almost all used to rent fishing. With lower income cuts need to be made. Reluctantly the Committee has therefore decided that it will be necessary to drop some fishing in 2021 - especially as subscription rates for 2021 have been held at current levels for yet another year.

We therefore have to advise that the West Looe Beat (Beat 20) and the Inny Beat (Beat 19) will not be leased in 2021.

Whilst this decision reduces the number of rivers we can fish from 6 to 4 and removes access to grayling (on the Inny) we hope that securing the Middle Boconnoc Beat (8B) on the Fowey will go at least some way to compensate for the reduction.

Throughout these challenging times we continue to rely even more heavily on the goodwill of our riparian owners for continuing to lease their quality water to us – and it is good to report that relationships with these key stakeholders remain positive. Indeed most owners were kindly in agreement to hold the (reduced) rents steady in 2020 and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them again publicly.

In 2020 we worked closely with Highways England (HE) during their extended A38 road improvement works to minimise disruption to the membership. In return HE assisted the club with extensive tree looping in Lewarne Coombe. This negated the need for us to undertake night work parties.

Please do remember to support the working party events in the New Year (dates appeared earlier in this Newsletter and on the important dates sheet at the end). They are a good opportunity for new members to meet others, to walk the beats and to put something back into the future of your Club.

Notwithstanding the National lockdowns your Committee members (virtually) attended Fowey River Association (FRA) and EA meetings to ensure the Club interests are always fully represented. Information from these is shared via the Club newsletters/website where appropriate.

To keep abreast of any changes to your fishing please do remember to always log onto the Club website at ldac.org.uk.

Remember: If we don't have your (latest) email address we cannot contact you - so please do send it to us as you read this newsletter. Email your address NOW to secretary@ldac.org.uk.

Paul Jordan.

2019 Catch Summary for LDAC

On the River Fowey salmon catch numbers were down 40% *year-on-year* (from 53 in 2018 to 32 in 2019). Catch/release was maintained at 100%, which is excellent news and shows how our membership have supported the FRA/EA guidelines in helping to preserve our fishing for the future. We can ask no more of our members and the Committee thanks you for your efforts.

Sea trout numbers on the River Fowey were up by 8% from 104 in 2018 to 113 in 2019. Catch/release rates went up another 2% to reach 97% in 2019. Again this is good news for any future discussions that we have with the EA.

On the River Lynher salmon caught numbers were up 125% from those reported 2018. However, even then the catch numbers made for depressing reading, rising from just 4 to an almost equally depressing 9 in 2019. On a more positive note catch/release was maintained at 100%.

Sea trout numbers on the Lynher were also up *year-on-year*, rising 128% from 7 to 16. Catch/release was again reported as being 100%.

The overall catch for the Club, across all six rivers gave a total of 42 salmon caught (all being released), down from 58 reported in 2018, a reduction *year-on-year* of 18%. For Sea trout the numbers were better, a catch total of 140, up 23% from the 114 reported in 2018.

TURF LAWNS - Supplied or laid

Grass Cutting/Strimming/Rockerries/Patios/Fencing
Top Soil/Sand/Gravel/Rustic Walling Stone/Hardcore

All aspects of landscaping

Barrie Pearn: 07767 218857

Treasurer's Report

2020 has once again been a very challenging year for the Club financially.

Our income is solely reliant on membership numbers and we have seen these fall once again, from 126 in 2019 to just 116 this year.

This equates to a further loss of income of approximately £800 in income.

Anticipating the future, and seeing a consistent *year-on-year* decline in membership numbers (since 2010) we clearly need to reduce our costs even further if the club is to survive. As a result the Committee reluctantly agreed to drop some fishing. We hope that we will not have to look to drop further stretches in the future but that will depend solely on membership numbers stabilising.

For 2021 the Committee has decided not to increase subscriptions.

Adult subscriptions will therefore remain at £100.00 pa and Disabled subscriptions will stay at £85.00 pa. All other rates will remain the same. See *Ticket Prices* Section earlier in this newsletter for further details.

Renewal subscriptions must be received by the 1st of April 2021 to ensure we have sufficient cash-flow to operate the Club effectively. Failure to do so will mean that late returning members will be liable for paying the full (re) joining fee of £20.00.

Subscriptions can be paid by cheque (payable to LDAC) or, if you prefer, by BACS (bank details below) – but those members renewing by BACS ***must*** also still notify the Treasurer by post, and provide a SAE with their submitted catch returns to enable their season ticket to be sent out for 2021.

Beware: ***No ticket means No fishing!***

Account Name	LDAC
Account number	80574988
Sort code	20 - 50 - 40

Could I finally remind all members that they should apply directly to the Treasurer with

- Complete and accurate catch return form for 2020 season
- Membership renewal form duly completed (including an email address wherever possible)
- Cheque (if not paying by BACS) for appropriate amount, including any donations
- Stamped addressed envelope

The address to send it to is Higher Trevartha Farm, Pengover, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 3NJ.

Trevor Sobey

Fishing Mayhem are the LDAC sole ticket agents.

Fishing Mayhem

Unit 1, St Marys Business Park
Moorswater Industrial Park
Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 4LN
(Tel: 01579 558 558)

10% discount for our members
on presentation of your LDAC season ticket.

Conservation & Hatchery News

Fowey Hatchery

Thanks once again are warranted to LDAC for actively supporting the Colliford Salmon Hatchery. Key areas of support provided include

- Broodstock donations: Well over half of 2020's brood stock came from LDAC waters.
- Manpower: Volunteers from the club help at Colliford.
- Fin-clipping: Volunteers came and helped EA & SWW.

We had a great start to brood stock collecting in October 2020 – collecting almost all our allotted 10 hens and 10 cock fish in the first 4 weeks. At the time of writing all brood stock needed for the 2021 programme are now on site.

COVID-19 saw much of the group-working and volunteer work parties cancelled. Even so volunteers continued to help out where they could but a stricter lone-working policy was implemented for safety on-site at Colliford. The full 40,000 fish were nonetheless stocked out in late summer at all the usual sites down the St Neot.

We were unable to fulfil the whole 25% fish clipped this year due to social distancing rules but we did manage around 4,000 fish. This is a shame as it is a very good record if Hatchery fish return as adults. Jason Drew caught and videoed a fin-clipped fish in July – see the video here:

<http://fb.watch/1PO6Qu284Q/>

Please note that the EA is now keen to formally collate all reports of fin-clipped fish taken from the Fowey and there is a form that can be downloaded from the FRA to do so. See link below:

<https://bit.ly/38Rzof0>

For more information or to get involved with the Colliford Hatchery please do contact the Hatchery Manager at hatchery@riverfowey.org

Richard Grieve

Lynher Hatchery

Despite the lockdown earlier in the year, and with the continued sterling efforts of Nick Lintott and Graham Hake the hatchery succeeded in stocking out some 25,000 fry in various stages throughout the summer.

Minimal losses were reported from the hatchery and it was, despite the operational challenges, a good year.

Changes in our discharge consent with the EA were needed during the year following the withdrawal of Pycles production worldwide.

Through the efforts of Nick Lintott and with support from the EA and the Hatchery at Colliford a workable solution was eventually found.

At the time of writing 2020 brood stock collection is well underway. As in previous year cock fish are proving elusive but it is hoped we will have a full complement before year-end.

As usual we are extremely grateful to LDAC and our other donors for continuing to support the hatchery both financially and with manpower.

Arthur White.

Treworgey (Draynes) Sanctuary improvements

This work, previously led by Chris Janes and Rob Williams urgently needs new dedicated and reliable volunteers to make up a small team to work on a limited number of Sundays each summer. Jeff Pearce, from the FRA had indicated his willingness to lead this new work but Covid-19 reared its ugly head and this year no work was performed.

If you wish to take on this important role or indeed just support work parties in the Draynes please contact a Committee member and we will help you to progress the matter.

Season dates

River Fowey

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st April – 31st August
 Salmon: 1st April – 30th November

River Lynher

Season dates Sea Trout: 3rd March – 31st August
 Salmon: 1st March – 14th October

River Seaton

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st April – 31st August
 Salmon: 1st April – 30th November

River Camel

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st May – 31st August
 Salmon: 1st May – 30th November

Website

Don't forget you can download colour maps, application forms, catch return forms, trophy forms and many other publications from the website. Go to **www.ldac.org.uk**

Homeleigh Garden Centre

Dutson, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 9SP (01566 771878)

Homeleigh Angling Centre is Cornwall's largest tackle shop.

There is a huge selection in store.

Expert advice on all game fishing matters.

Please call our angling centre and we will be happy to help.

10% discount (on non sale items) for our members on presentation of your LDAC season ticket.

Important Dates

Month	Time/Event	Details
JANUARY 17th January 24th January 31st January	Lynher Working Party Fowey Working Party Lynher Working Party	Wotton/Pillaton Boconnoc Middle Beat 88 Kingfisher
MUST REMEMBER	BUY YOUR NEW EA ROD LICENCE	DON'T FORGET
DO THIS NOW!!!!	PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES TO LDAC	SEND IN YOUR CATCH RETURN FOR 2020
FEBRUARY 7th February 9th February 21st February 28th February MARCH 1st March 3rd March APRIL 1st April TBA MAY 1st May AUGUST 31st August 31st August OCTOBER 14th October NOVEMBER 30th November	Fowey Working Party LDAC AGM Lynher Working Party Fowey Working Party Lynher Lynher Fowey/Seaton FRA AGM Camel Fowey/Seaton Lynher/Camel Lynher Fowey/Seaton/Camel	Doublebois Constitution Club, 9 Market Street, Liskeard, PL14 3JH Dogleg Upper Boconnoc Salmon season opens Sea Trout season opens Sea Trout and Salmon season opens Boconnoc Trout/Sea Trout/Salmon season opens - EA BYE LAW IN FORCE Sea Trout season closes Sea Trout season closes Salmon season closes Salmon season closes

TROPHIES

Members are encouraged to submit catches that could qualify for one of the four trophies:

- Brown trout
- Sea trout
- Salmon
- Junior Achievement

Members can either scan or detach the form below. Send or email to:

Honorary Secretary
Lower Hollycoombe
Drift Lane
Twowatersfoot
Liskeard
PL14 6HH (secretary@ldac.org.uk)

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------|
| 1. | Member's Name
Address | Membership No. |
| | or your email address | |
| 2. | Catch details
Date
River
Species | Time
Beat
Weight |
| | Measurements (if weight not known)
Length (cm) | Girth (cm) |
| | Catch method (delete as applicable) | Fly / Spinner / Worm |
| 3. | Witness (if available)
Name | Membership No. |