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Photo courtesy of J Preston

"There is no greater fan of fly-fishing than the worm."

P. F. McManus

December 2015

Contents:

- Ticket subscriptions and prices
- AGM Notification
- Club Trophies
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- Reports from your club officers
- News, club initiatives & conservation updates
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Ticket prices

Your committee have approved a £2.00p increase in the adult/senior subscription price for 2016 season but has held all other prices. This small increase will allow the club to just cover rising rental costs in 2016. *It represents an increase of just 10p per mile of fishing for the year.*

Membership - full season (March - December 2016)

Adult/Senior	£92.00
Life Membership (after 3 yrs)	£1,150.00
Registered Disabled	£82.50
Junior (<17yrs) Year 1	FREE
Junior (<17yrs) Year 2 onwards	£15.00
Joining Fee	£15.00

Weekly Visitor Ticket

Adult £70.00 Junior £15.00

Day Visitor Tickets

Adult £20.00 Junior £7.50

Application forms for the 2016 Season are enclosed with this newsletter.

**- See The Treasurers Report for further details -
what to send, where to send it etc.**

AGM Invitation

Please note that all current members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Liskeard and District Angling Club on 9th February 2016 – starting at 19:30 - Constitutional Club, 9 Market St, Liskeard, PL14 3JH - in the upstairs meeting room.

Pay your subscription, collect your 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.

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.

	2015 Holder	All Time Record
Salmon	J White 14lbs	J Hawken 28lb 0oz
Sea Trout	J Hake 5bs	G Hake 13lb 8oz
Brown Trout	T Sobey 1lb 8oz	G Hake 4lb 1oz
Lynher/Contribution		R Lashbrook
Junior		Not awarded

There is a submittal form included with this newsletter – or you can download one from the website.

All entries must be received by 31st December 2015 to enable them to be considered for award by the Committee.

Lost and Found

Don't forget to contact the Secretary at sec@ldac.org.uk if you have either lost or found any item on the clubs' waters. We can reunite any items found to their rightful owner.

Chairman's report

At the time of writing this the 2015 season is drawing to a close, the river is running high and is nicely coloured; yet fish seem to be a little scarce in this last week of November. I am still hoping for a late run and always optimistic of catching that elusive *winter* fish of bygone days.

We certainly should not complain though, the season overall has undoubtedly been a good one with steady numbers of salmon throughout the year on both the Fowey and Lynher.

There were many good salmon in the 8lb to 12lb range taken from both main rivers and at times some very good fish indeed were brought to the net, with the best reported being a 19lb Fowey fish caught above Trago Mills in fairly low water conditions by Graham Hake - whilst fishing for sea trout in August using a small Mepps spinner. At Wainsford there were entries in the book for three fish caught in early November all *estimated in* excess of 16lb. Although these were not fresh *winter* fish, they were all coloured hens and returned safely to the river, which promises to make for a good spawning year if weather conditions permit.

The sea trout season struggled to get off the ground early on with very low water conditions on both main rivers – resulting in the fish being reluctant to take, even at night. On most rivers in the South West there was real cause for concern as the low water exacerbated the risk of disease, both sea trout and some big early salmon began developing white marks, with many going on to succumb to disease.

Thankfully rain finally came and refreshed the flows and, in the main, our stocks did recover, bringing some damage limitation; albeit too late for some very good fish.

With the rain came excellent sea trout fishing and catch numbers were encouraging. Fish up to 9lbs were recorded on both the Lynher and the Fowey and regular reports of fish of 5-7lbs were being reported regularly on both rivers. A 9lb sea trout for Jon Hake (at Doublebois in May) was a well-deserved reward following all of his hard work clearing numerous pools this year. An even larger fish (10lbs) was lost by one (un)fortunate angler on our smallest stream - the Seaton!

As many of you will now be aware the long-awaited Fowey Hatchery at Colliford is now in the final planning stages and there is an update in the section under Hatchery News.

We must also applaud the continued hard work being carried out by volunteers at the Lynher Hatchery. Despite challenging times they have continued to produce good results. Again an update can be found under the section on Hatchery News.

We have worked with Charlie Bettison and Coodes to finally remove the massive tree dam at the Tier Pools (downstream of Ashford Bridge). The pools are now gradually clearing of the sand that has built up over the last few years. This was made possible by the efforts of some members of our committee and funding from the Club and the Coodes Estate. We offer our thanks to Coodes for their continued support of our Club.

But we did not manage to complete all that we needed to do. Due to a lack of man-power *Best Pool* on the Lynher remains blocked by fallen trees. We must try to remedy that as a priority when low water occurs in the summer of next year.

I am once again asking members to turn out in sufficient numbers to support bank clearance days. We are facing the prospect of having to remove a lot of debris and fallen trees from both the Lynher and Fowey in the spring. Please do come and help to improve your fishing. The timetable is printed in this newsletter - so there is ample notice given to be able to turn up and help.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the members of the Committee for their continued hard work and support of the Club this year – their efforts are noted. Finally I note that there are several vacancies on the Club Committee this year and I would encourage anyone who wants to stand as a Committee member to contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

This year is living proof, if we needed it, that we have some wonderful fishing on our rivers, fishing that is worth looking after and so I very much look forward to seeing you all at the AGM in February.

Rob Williams

Fishing Mayhem

Plymouth Road, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 3PB
Tel: 01579 340447

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

Authorised LDAC ticket sales for visitors

News, new initiatives and general information

Closure of Beat 9 (Lynher Farm, Bathpool)

Due to the planned sale of Lynher Farm (Bathpool), LDAC no longer have the opportunity to lease the fishing on Beat 9 on the Lynher River. Please note that with immediate effect *neither access nor fishing is permitted* and you should update your maps accordingly. The website maps have been updated to show this change. If the opportunity arises for LDAC to lease the fishing from the new owners we will do so and advise members accordingly.

Litter

Littering remains a perennial problem at some beat access points and along parts of the rivers where we fish. *TAKE* your litter home and if you see any lying around pick it up - and help to improve your own fishing environment.

If you see someone littering do something about it!

Lewarne Access:

The pull in off the A38 has now been improved – with a tarmac base and a gate. There is ample room to pull in off the A38 and open the gate (inwards). Be sure to close it behind you whilst you are there AND after you have left. Thanks to Barrie Pearn for his efforts in placing the gate for us.

The gate is there to prevent trespassing and dog walkers – please use it effectively.

In the closed season it will be padlocked shut so please do not try to access the woods at this time – reversing back out onto the A38 would be rather problematic!

Website – www.ldac.org.uk

You can download colour maps, application forms, catch return forms, trophy forms and many other publications from the website.

See other useful internet links →

Work Party Incentive Scheme

The work party incentive programme continues to run and members are using this to introduce guests and friends to our waters. There are opportunities to get a free visitor tickets in 2016 by attending 2 work parties - so come along and you can take a friend fishing for a day on the Club's waters at no cost later in the year.

When you qualify for this please contact the Secretary so you can claim your day ticket. Contact the secretary at sec@ldac.org.uk

Working Party: Dates for 2016.

Meet 10.00hrs @ each beat entry point:

RIVER LYNHER

Frogwell (G Hake)	Sunday, 24 th January 2016
Cadsonbury (D White)	Sunday, 31 st January 2016
Dogleg (D White)	Sunday, 7 th February 2016

RIVER FOWEY

Golitha (D White)	Sunday, 21 st February 2016
Ashford (B Pearn)	Sunday, 28 th February 2016
Doublebois (B Pearn)	Sunday, 13 th March 2016

A38 Night Closures (Date TBA)

Organiser: R Williams

Useful links

How big is my fish? - without weighing it

<http://bit.ly/1SPNg8V>

Environment Agency rod fishing Bylaws - South West

<http://bit.ly/1U6JtoP>

Complete your EA Catch Return online

<http://bit.ly/1Z0KqSk>

Cryptic Christmas Crossword Competition

We have included a Christmas crossword for you to have a go at. It is fishing based so *think fishing* and *think southwest* as you have a go.

The first correct entry received (either by email to sec@ldac.org.uk or by post, to Lower Hollycombe, Drift Lane, Twowatersfoot, Liskeard, PL14 6HH) will receive as a prize the first choice of raffle prizes at the AGM on 9th February 2016. We hope you enjoy it – but be warned, it is not easy!

The winner to be announced before the AGM on the LDAC website.

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.

Roger Lashbrook's Fishing Tackle

at Stan Mays. Higher Bore Street, Bodmin
Cornwall PL3 1JZ. (Tel: 01208 78006).

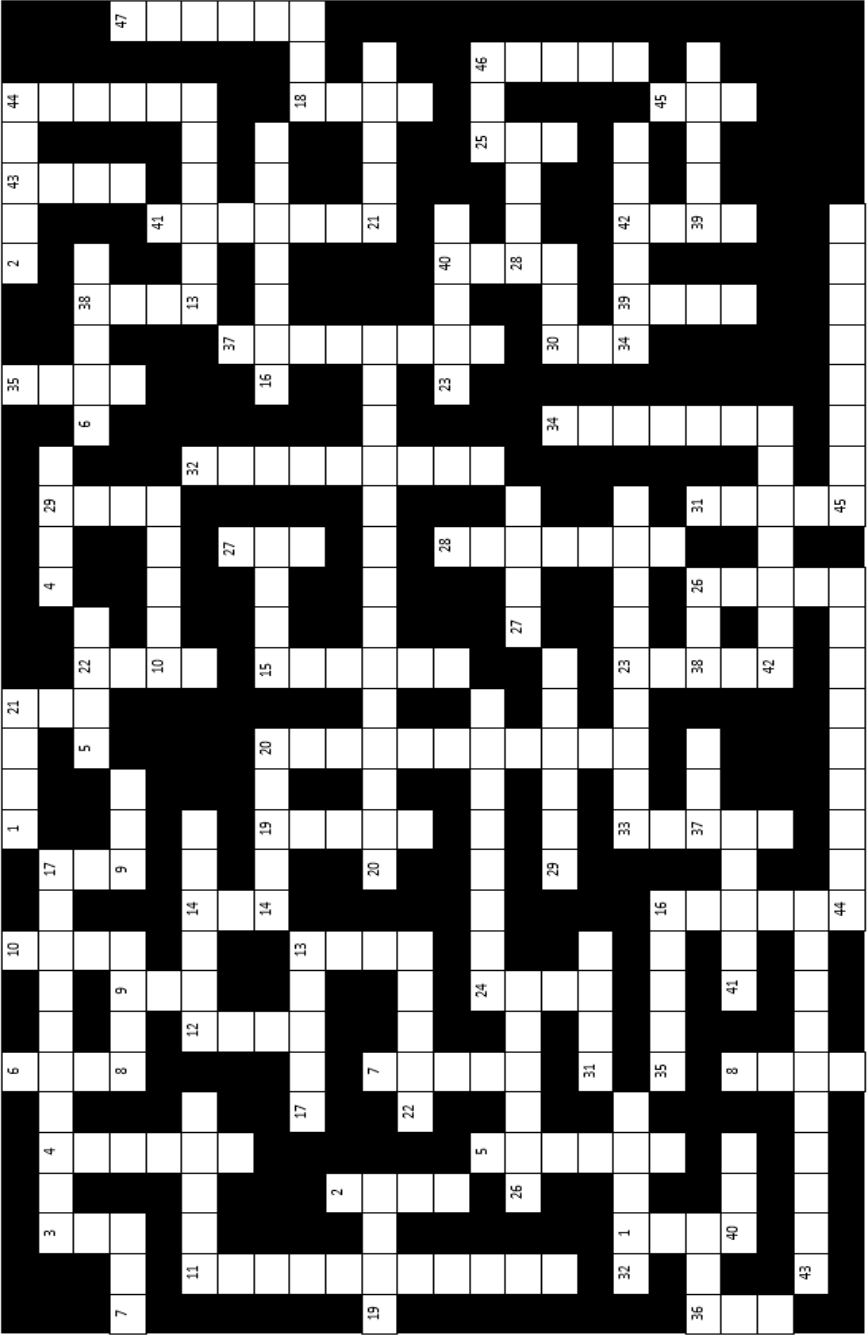
For tackle that won't let you down....

A substantial discount for our members
on presentation of your season ticket.

Authorised LDAC Ticket sales for visitors



VISITOR. "What's the favourite fly in these parts, boy?"
BOY. "A Worrin."



ACROSS

- A big ugly trout (4)
- A type of spinner (5)
- She still holds the record (10)
- Announcing a recent arrival (4)
- Expensive this is (4)
- Always in the drains (5)
- Back for a second year or more in Devon(3)
- The evening(4)
- Staff (3)
- All mixed up in a tram (an, 5)
- For keeping fish fresh (5)
- The traditional stuff for 9 across (6)
- The leaper (6)
- Salmon trout** (5)
- Sounds like it might have a naval connection (4)
- Water(7)
- A mighty Norwegian (5)
- Where to find a salmon (3)
- Cornish place related to Australian outlaw? (4)
- Our most recent **grommet** arrival? (6,4,4)
- Not a river (5)
- Fresh water parasite (5)
- Comes before stock? (5)
- Not much good for fishing (3,5)
- Wet, pale and blue (3)
- A Cornish valley (6)
- Quarry (4)
- A daily limit (4)
- Heavy casting with this (6)
- Do it to a fly? (3)
- Not green (4)
- Certainly not a lake (5)

- It cocks 39 across (6)
 - For putting on a circle hook? (5)
 - Rudder (3)
 - The best month for flies (3)
 - The total number of salmon in a year (3)
 - Bite indicator (5)
 - A bit of a manly guard (3)
 - Another type of fly (5)
 - We don't do this (7)
 - You carry one of these (7,3)
 - Not with a floating line (4,5)
 - A winter bird disguised as a river (8)
-
- DOWN
- The only place for grayling in this club (4)
 - Flowing backwards this one? (4)
 - Handy to have (3)
 - Something for the eyes? (6)
 - An expensive **tetch** (6)
 - Sixth time lucky for "Our **grommet**" (4)
 - West country river (5)
 - Do this in fast water (4)
 - Full of salt (3)
 - Hook (4)
 - Don't forget to do it (5,6)
 - Not on our rivers (4)
 - A Scottish salmon river (4)
 - Always look for this before starting (3)
 - Illegal now (6)
 - A silver futures market (6)
- It happens at **Golitha** (4)
 - Where to go fishing in the desert (5)
 - The club record (6,5)
 - What you get if you don't release (3)
 - Weighty stuff this (4)
 - Waiting for one of these (5)
 - Swans don't like this (4)
 - A type of sherry spinner? (3)
 - Not south (5)
 - Part of a saucepan? (3)
 - What we do (7)
 - Cuppa **tea** (4)
 - A mole for a son – in Devon? (3)
 - A type of net (5)
 - A wet sheepdog crossing a river (9)
 - You'll need one for 19 down (5)
 - Drama on the river? (7)
 - Oliver (4)
 - A blue bottle perhaps? (3)
 - Coming Soon (8)
 - Rare now (4)
 - A mere (an; 4)
 - A golden fish (4)
 - This one swims, it does not fly (6,1)
 - Long gone from the river bank (4)
 - A man-made habitat? (4)
 - A stone(s) throw from the ocean (an; 6)
 - Where its at for 3 across (3)
 - Running uphill to Dartmoor (5)
 - The summer's best visitor? (4)

Month	Time / Event	Details
January 2016		
24 th January	<u>Lynher Working Party</u>	<u>Frogwell Mill</u>
31 st January	<u>Lynher Working Party</u>	<u>Cadsonbury</u>
February 2015		
7 th February	<u>Lynher Working Party</u>	Dogleg
9 th February	LDAC AGM	Constitutional Club, 9 Market St, PL14 3JH
21 st February	Fowey Working Party	<u>Golitha Falls</u>
28 th February	Fowey Working Party	Ashford Bridge
March 2015		
1 st March	<u>Lynher / Inny</u>	Salmon Season opens
3 rd March	<u>Lynher / Inny</u>	Sea Trout Season opens
13 th March	10:00 Fowey Working Party	<u>Doublebois Bridge</u>
April 2015		
1 st April	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Sea Trout & Salmon Seasons opens
13 th April	Fowey Rivers Association AGM	TBC
May 2015		
1 st May	Camel	Sea Trout & Salmon Seasons opens
September 2015		
30 th September	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Sea Trout Season closes
30 th September	<u>Lynher / Inny/ Camel</u>	Sea Trout Season closes
October 2015		
14 th October	<u>Lynher / Inny</u>	Salmon Season closes
December 2015		
15 th December	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Salmon Season closes
15 th December	Camel	Salmon Season closes

Treasurer's report

The underlying financial position of the club remains sound and the club has run with a small profit (<£500.00) for the past year. Finances are therefore just about balanced.

As previously discussed membership levels are key to the future of the club. The Secretary has mentioned that membership numbers could be higher and this year we saw a drop from 190 to 182 full adult members.

With the inevitable rise in rental costs (c.2%) and overheads (insurance, hatchery donations, expenses) the Club will increase 2016 subscription prices by a small amount (£2.00p) for adults/seniors. We have managed to keep all other subscriptions at current levels.

Despite this minimal increase the costs are still highly competitive with game fishing costs elsewhere in the county and wider afield.

Could I remind all members that they should apply directly to me for their 2016 membership as soon as possible; ensuring they enclose;

- Complete and accurate catch return form for 2015 season
- Membership renewal form duly completed (including an email address where possible)
- Cheque for appropriate amount, including any donations
- Stamped addressed envelope

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

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

Secretary's report

Another season has passed and it is time to reflect on how it all went.

The Committee members have met on four occasions since the last AGM and their attendance has been good at over 80%. Key topics of discussion included

i) Trustee changes for Club owned fishing: Your new trustees are Trevor Sobey (continuing), David White and Paul Jordan. The club wishes to acknowledge the many years of service that Bill Eliot gave as a trustee for the Club – one of the many key contributions he has made over the years.

ii) 2014 Catch Returns: All anglers reported compliant returns and the salmon catch/release for the Lynher was the best on record – at 100%. However a new issue arose in the catch/release rate for sea trout from the Fowey. Whilst overall catch numbers were more or less at the same level as that of 2013 there was a worrying **downward trend** in the catch/release rate, dropping from 76% to 62%. This was exacerbated by a small group (6) of very successful anglers who averaged just a 12.5% release rate for over 20% of the total number of fish caught on the river! If all our members killed this proportion of their fish the Fowey sea trout population would soon be at risk?

iii) A slow (but steady) decline in adult and junior membership numbers over the last few years. A decade ago the club was full (with 250 full-time adult members) and it is noticeable that over the last 5 years those numbers have gradually declined to under 200. With lifetime members, riparian owner tickets and juniors the numbers of people fishing the river is still well over 220 but it is the adult membership fees that provide the annual income that is necessary for us to meet the rising cost of fishing rents – most of which inflate by RPI each year. Whilst significant efforts have been made to recruit new members (through the efforts of local tackle shop owners in particular) it is clear that overall club membership is naturally declining as existing members grow older and few(er) young anglers join the Club. Attracting younger members is increasingly important and we would ask that members who know of likely candidates to encourage them to join the club. We do incentivise juniors to join with a free introductory year and with subsidised junior prices thereafter.

iv) Accident/Indemnity Insurance: The Club provides insurance cover for members carrying out organised and supervised work party tasks but the club does not provide accident/indemnity insurance for individuals whilst they participate in fishing on any club waters (rented or owned). We do not expect nor ask our riparian owners to do so either.

You therefore go fishing on all LDAC waters (whether owned or rented) at your own risk.

This is not through choice but because our insurance provider (Angling Trust/Insure4Sport) does not provide individual member cover as part of their Club insurance Package. It is therefore important that members consider their personal circumstances and take out individual indemnity/accident insurance if they feel the need. This can be taken out as part of *individual membership* of the Angling Trust and their contact details follow:

The Angling Trust – Membership - <http://tinyurl.com/olx6ulv>

We encourage all our members to join the Angling Trust.

Your Committee members attended Fowey River Association (FRA), Lynher River Association (LRA) and Tamar and Tributaries Fisheries Association (TTFA) meetings and AGM's to ensure the Club interests are fully represented in these forums. Information from these is shared via the Club newsletters/website if relevant.

The Club website continues to enable us to reach our members in a timely and cost effective manner.

Remember: If we don't have your (latest) email address please do send it to us as you read this newsletter. Email your new address to sec@ldac.org.uk

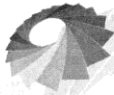
Those members who do not have email will continue to receive correspondence through the post – but again, **please make sure we have your *up-to-date* postal address so we can keep in touch.**

Your mid-year newsletter was once again published, being distributed to all members in August 2015; again mostly by email. I hope you find it informative. If you have any views or ideas on it's future content please do contact the Secretary at sec@ldac.org.uk to discuss.

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

Thanks to Richard Grieve for continued support in looking after all things IT.

Paul Jordan



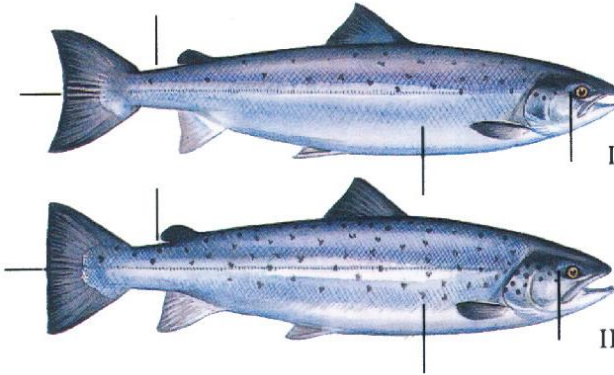
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How do you tell the difference between Salmon and Sea Trout?



Salmon (I) can be distinguished from large sea trout (II) by a more streamlined shape, concave tail, slimmer tail wrist, upper jaw reaching no further than rear of the eye, few if any black spots below lateral line, 10-15 (usually 11-13) scales counted obliquely forward from adipose fin to lateral line - trout have 13-16.

	Salmon	Sea Trout
General appearance	Slender and streamlined	More round and thickset
Head	Pointed	More Round
Position of the Eye	Maxilla does not extend beyond eye	Maxilla extends beyond eye
Colour	Relatively few spots	Often heavily spotted
Scale count (number from adipose fin to lateral line)	10-13	13-16
Fork of tail	Usually forked	Usually square or convex
Wrist of tail	Slender	Broader
Handling	Easy to pick up by tail	Tail slips through hand

Conservation & Hatchery News:

FRA/Fowey Hatchery

Enclosed with this newsletter is the FRA Annual newsletter. This provides an update of the activities of the Association and we would urge you to read it and to become a contributing member of the FRA.

Its work is key in helping to improve fish stocks in the Fowey and several major accomplishments were achieved in 2015.

Firstly, by making a significant donation of £5,000 the FRA has been pivotal in enabling the construction of a salmon pass in front of Ladyvale Bridge at Cardinham. This opens up over 1000m of excellent new gravels to the breeding salmon. Future fry monitoring of the new gravel stretch will show how effective this improvement has been.

Secondly, through their involvement with FFRG (Fowey Fisheries Resource Group) the Committee of the Fowey Rivers Association (FRA) has succeeded in its bid to replace Wainsford Hatchery with one dedicated to overcoming the permanent loss of salmon from the St Neot.

The absence of salmon in the St Neot results from the unnatural flow regime, with high summer flows and low winter flows caused by the operation of the Colliford-Restormel water supply arrangement.

The Environment Agency (EA) and South West Water (SWW) have accepted that the permanent loss of salmon has to be overcome and have agreed that a total refurbishment of the (moth-balled) Colliford hatchery.

The hatchery will come online in the Autumn of 2016 with first stocking in 2017. Brood stock collection will be either by trapping, rod and line, or a combination of both.

The LDAC Committee understands that the permanent hatchery is a major undertaking in both terms of financial resources and time.

Richard Grieve has agreed to manage the hatchery on behalf of FRA and the effectiveness of the new hatchery will be entirely dependant on the availability of volunteers and If you wish to volunteer for at the hatchery please contact any member of the LDAC Committee who will happily put you in touch with the FRA, *or by email to the FRA Sec* - JonREvans@aol.com

Lynher Hatchery: 2015/16

In both 2013 and 2014 high water temperatures led to restricted numbers of fish being stripped - and disappointingly few eggs being produced. it is therefore fair to say that enthusiasm going into the 2015/16 cycle was somewhat subdued. Additionally there appeared to be some reluctance from the EA to giving *out-of-season* authorisation for brood stock collection, which rather added to our despondency.

After a scarcity of cock fish in the previous three years we wondered whether this year would be a repeat situation. In the event the reverse situation applied with our quota of cock fish all but complete by the season end, with several good-sized fish secured. Hen fish were however scarce, and we were obliged to seek *out-of-season*

River conditions were not good for much of the extension period, but fortunately Graham Hake found two hens on the last weekend, bringing our total to seven, one less than quota. We are grateful to Graham, and those other anglers who donated fish to the hatchery.

All the fish are now in the hatchery, but it is concerning that water temperatures again remain relatively high (11-12 degrees C). This does not help in

- keeping the fish in tip top condition, *and*
- is also detrimental for egg stripping.

Much will now depend on cold(er) weather in December if we are to achieve better results than the previous two years.

We remain grateful for the continued financial support from LDAC and other kind donors.

Arthur White

Season dates – Catch Limits

River Fowey

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st April – 30th September
 Salmon: 1st April – 15th December

Catch Limits 1 Salmon per day, 2 Salmon per week
 5 Salmon per year
 4 Sea trout per day
 Please release all sea trout in September

River Lynher

Season dates Sea Trout: 3rd March – 30th September
 Salmon: 1st March – 14th October

Catch Limits 2 Salmon per day, 4 Salmon per week
 10 Salmon per year
 Salmon Release Rate: 2 in 3 (66% released)
 4 Sea trout per day

River Inny

Season dates Sea Trout: 3rd March – 30th September
 Salmon: 1st Mar – 14th October

Catch Limits 2 Sea trout per day
 Return all fish over 3lbs
 1 Salmon per day
 Return all fish over 10lb

River Seaton & West Looe

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st April – 30th September
 Salmon: 1st April – 15th December

Catch Limits 1 Salmon per day, 2 Salmon per week
 5 Salmon per year
 4 Seatrout per day

River Camel

Season dates Sea Trout: 1st May – 30th September
 Salmon: 1st May – 15th December

Catch Limits 2 Salmon per day, 4 Salmon per week
 10 Salmon per year
 Sea Trout: 6 Sea trout per week
 Return all fish <1lb and >3lbs
 Please release all sea trout in September

Important - See Rule 17 on your season ticket for further details of the All Cornwall limits LDAC subscribe to.

A quick photo to remember a cracking winter fish - and then released to spawn again



A beautiful fresh run sea trout returned un-touched



Returning an excellent salmon to the River Fowey

