



2013/14 Newsletter



'Fowey Mist' photo courtesy of Mark Yates

"The best fishermen I know try not to make the same mistakes over and over again. Instead they strive to make new and interesting mistakes and to remember what they learned from them." John Gierach

December 2013

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Ticket prices

Your committee have made a small increase in the adult subscription – however the junior and visitor tickets remain unchanged for a fourth year.

Membership - full season (March - December 2014)

Adult	£ 87.50
Adult over 65 or registered disabled	£ 82.50
Junior 14 to 17 years	£ 15.00
Junior Under 14 years	£ 10.00
Life membership (after 3 years membership)	£ 1093.75
Joining fee for new members	£ 15.00
New members under 17 years- 1st year	£ FREE

Application forms are enclosed with this newsletter.

Please send your subscription (with a SAE) directly to Trevor Sobey, (Honorary Treasurer), Higher Trevartha Farm, Pengover, Liskeard, PL14 3NJ; or attend the AGM on 11th February 2014.

AGM Invitation

Please note that all current members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Liskeard and District Angling Club on 11th February 2014 – starting at 19:30 - Constitutional Club, 9 Market St, Liskeard, PL14 3JH - in the upstairs meeting room.

Pay your subs, collect your ticket, hear about the club's news, (possibly) win a prize in the raffle, listen to the guest speaker; Dr. Bruce Stockley (West Country Rivers Trust), have your say and meet other members.

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.

	2013 Holder	All Time Record
Salmon	J White 16lbs	J Hawken 28lb 0oz
Sea Trout	R Grieve 5lbs	G Hake 13lb 8oz
Brown Trout	Not awarded	G Hake 4lb 1oz
Lynher	P Mugridge	-
Junior	Not awarded	-

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

Please note all entries must be received by 31st December 2013.

Lost and Found

Please contact the Secretary at sec@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.

Roger Lashbrook's Fishing Tackle

at Stan Mays. Higher Bore Street, Bodmin
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

Chairman's update

Generally speaking the 2013 season has been a difficult one.

A few large sea trout put in an appearance in early April, but then record low water over most the summer meant that fish were few and far between. Those around were certainly not in the mood for taking! Nonetheless, the odd fish was caught and a few grilse showed themselves by July. But it was not until the rains came in late September that we started to see salmon being caught.

Notwithstanding the difficult fishing this year good numbers of fish came through the counter on the Fowey, and overall, numbers were up for both sea trout and salmon in 2013.

As you know, the Club works hard to ensure our fishing will be sustainable in the future – this means looking after the water, supporting hatcheries and maintaining fish stocks wherever possible.

To support this latter point we introduced a new Club rule on Lynher catch/release for the 2013 season, replacing a voluntary code that was not being adhered to. Having done so the Committee does take a lenient view to members' returns that show only a single salmon caught/killed; but members who kill fish repeatedly can expect little sympathy.

Regrettably one member was removed from the club this year for continuing to disregard the catch/release rule on the River Lynher. A number of other members were warned of the likely consequences if they failed to meet the target in future seasons.

On a lighter note I was delighted to see such a strong turn out by members on the working parties this year – we had 74 half days of work contributed by the Club members and much good work has been done in improving and maintaining access – thank you.

We also made considerable progress on roadside trees in Lewarne. The work, carried out during the Highway Agency night time closures of the A38 was well supported and I would like to extend my thanks firstly to Chris Janes who led the work on our behalf and secondly to our members who gave up their nights in support.

I am pleased to report that the Fowey River Association is funding a temporary hatchery this year. Additionally they have provided significant funds for habitat improvement to our stretches of the River Fowey in Lewarne Coombe.

We also received direct funding this year from the West Country Rivers Trust utilising their Country Sports Southwest Project initiative. The monies were spent on further maintenance and access. All members and visitors will benefit tremendously from these enabling works.

We hope that you see real improvements and join with me in thanking both organisations for their generous support.

Rob Williams.

Work Party incentive scheme

The new incentive programme is working and members are already using this to introduce guests to our waters. There are opportunities to get a free visitor tickets in 2014 so you can take a friend fishing for a day on the Club's waters.

If you qualify for this please do contact the Secretary so you can take a guest fishing. sec@ldac.org.uk

Working Party Dates 2014

Meet 10.00hrs @ each beat entry point:

16 th February 2014	Ashford Bridge; Fowey
23 rd February 2014	Doublebois Bridge; Fowey
2 nd March 2014	Jacks/Lewarne; Fowey
9 th March 2014	Wheelpit/Secret Door; Fowey
16 th March 2014	Dogleg upstream of iron bridge; Lynher
23 rd March 2014	Dogleg downstream of iron bridge; Lynher

Secretary's report

With access to 6 rivers, encompassing over 36kms of both proprietary and rented fishing, LDAC is possibly the largest game fishing club in Cornwall and certainly one of the largest in the southwest of England.

I am pleased to report to you that in 2013 we maintained all of our existing fishing and through the kind support of Mr. Robert Speck we have leased a new stretch of the River Lynher, directly upstream of Plusha Bridge. This provides members with continuous access from the bridge right to the top of our adjoining beat – Harann.

Your Committee met five times during the year and discussed a wide range of issues; ranging from Club finances, tree-cutting strategies along the LDAC land adjoining the A38 to catch/release performance.

Committee attendance was at all times good; the majority of your Committee members attended all five meetings during the year and overall attendance was above 90%.

Worthy of note was the August Committee meeting which following a review of Members' Catch Returns for last season - 2012.

With just 50% of Lynher salmon reported returned alive in 2012 from Club waters we failed to meet the target of a 66% return rate. This rate is necessary if we are to continue to successfully avoid the re-introduction of commercial netting back onto the Lynher – and it is worth noting here that netting is returning to the Tamar in 2014.

Despite the Club rule, a number of members saw fit to ignore the rule despite catching multiple salmon and being in the position to return fish. The Chairman has already outlined the disciplinary action that the Committee has taken with regard to such matters.

As part of the same meeting the Committee felt that the catch return form was becoming overly complicated and it has therefore introduced a simpler form - to ensure all members can more easily and accurately report their seasonal catch.

A copy is to be found in this newsletter. Please do use it. Further copies are available on the website. The Committee has asked that Members be reminded that accurate and timely submittal of a catch return form is a condition of membership.

Your Committee members also 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 where appropriate.

The Club website is enabling us to reach more members than ever before, more cheaply and more quickly – we now have 65% of our members on e-mail, 5% up on 2012. The target remains 100%.

As promised, a mid-year newsletter was once again published, being distributed to all members in July 2013; mostly by email. I hope you found it useful. If you have any views or ideas on it's future content please do contact the Secretary on sec@ldac.org.uk to discuss.

This year we are, for the first time, distributing the Annual Newsletter, attachments and the FRA newsletter by email wherever possible. This has a major impact in lowering our printing costs and postage bill. That means we have more money to spend on improving our fishing – far better than spending it on other non-fishing related matters?

Remember: If we don't have your (latest) email address please do send it to us.

Paul Jordan.

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 update

Whilst the underlying financial position of the club remains sound we have found ourselves under increasing financial pressure over the last few seasons.

Since 2011 we have seen a drop in membership of 17.5%; from 224 full-paying adult members to just 185 in 2013; this resulted in a real income loss of over £3000.00 during the same period.

Against this, the cost of our fishing has risen, both by the effects of inflation (>8% over 3 years), through increased rentals on long term leases and acquisition of additional water. Poor interest rates and inflation are also effectively eroding our capital balance and it is not being increased.

Because of this, and as stated at the AGM in February 2013, the Committee have taken the position that it is necessary to ensure that subscription rates must necessarily rise to cover our costs, thereby ensuring the club remains financially sustainable in the long term.

Subscription rates for 2014 will therefore rise broadly in line with inflation. The Committee has agreed to increase fees to £87.50 pa for adults and to £82.50 for our senior members, an increase of £2.50 pa. Junior member, day/weekly ticket fees and enrolment fees will however remain frozen once again.

Could I remind all members that they should apply directly to me for their 2014 memberships as soon as possible; ensuring they enclose

- Completed and accurate catch return form for 2013 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 Higher Trevartha Farm, Pengover, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 3NJ.

Trevor Sobey.

News, new initiatives and general information

Insurance update

Due to a change in the terms and conditions of the Club membership of both Angling Trust and Fish Legal we are now **unable** to provide fishing insurance to individual members beyond January 31st 2014. Please make a note of this important change.

Limited insurance for working parties will, of course, remain in force.

Changes to Catch & Release limits

There are new catch limits on the River Inny.

All sea trout over 3lbs to be returned. No more than 2 sea trout to be taken in any 24-hour period.

All salmon over 10lbs to be returned. No more than 1 salmon to be taken in a day.

As a supporter of the Tamar and Tributaries Fishery Association the Club agrees to abide by their rules and regulations.

LDAC has water on many rivers and these are each governed by different catchment rules – please take a few moments to review the limits on all our water – there is a table at the back of this newsletter

Litter

Littering still remains a 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!

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

Conservation & Hatchery News

Fowey Hatchery

I am very pleased to be able to give a positive Fowey Hatchery update. A permanent home is still not in place but some progress has been made in the 2 years we have been away.

Let us recap for a moment - South West Water (SWW) pay The Fowey River Association (FRA) compensation for the lost spawning at the top of the St Neot tributary caused by the building of Colliford Reservoir. SWW built a hatchery below the dam and which subsequently closed. Efforts to raise salmon for re-stocking then moved to Wainsford. Wainsford hatchery was very successful but regrettably had to close in 2011.

SWW are still committed to raise salmon in compensation for lost spawning - and in conjunction with the FRA they continue to look for a site to re-establish and thereafter fund our new permanent home. But these things take time...

While this work goes on we have worked out a temporary solution for the 2013/14 salmon-rearing season - in conjunction with our regular hatchery technical advisor Justin Ruscombe-King - we are going to raise 30-40,000 Salmon in Boscastle at his trout farm.

At the time of writing (December 2013) we have made the 25-mile journey from the Fowey to North Cornwall with several cock fish but only a couple of hen fish. This is the bare minimum required for 'factorial mating' whereby multiple cock fish are used with one hen's eggs thereby spreading the genes.

We have a great team collecting brood-stock fish throughout the Fowey catchment - and LDAC waters and anglers are at the forefront of this work - so thank you to everyone who has donated time and indeed fish.

We very much hope to have more news very soon. If you would like to keep up to date we have re-opened the Fowey Hatchery Blog on the FRA website www.riverfowey.org If you would like to be involved please drop me a line at rjg@ldac.org.uk
Thanks again, regards Richard Grieve

Lynher Hatchery: 2013-14

After considerable delays the Lynher River Association has now received two replacement tanks on loan, and these have been installed at the hatchery, necessitating full refurbishment of piping and other equipment. This was completed in September, in time for the commencement of brood stock collection.

Despite low river conditions collection of brood stock commenced in late September, and by the season close in mid-October we had our full quota of fish (16), including a number of hens in double figures. As in the previous two years cock fish have proved scarce and small, and out of season collection continued to complete our quota.

Subject to the egg production of the hens, and sufficient cocks we would hope to reach our target figure of 60,000 eggs for this year's project. More news at www.lynherriverassociation.co.uk

Arthur White.

Tributary improvements

Efforts are always directed at improving habitat.

This, in association with hatchery stocking and increasing our catch/return rates is the way to maintain our fishing for the future.

Habitat work in a number of the small tributaries to the River Fowey has begun in 2013. Small ad-hoc working parties have cleared trash dams and invasive weeds on a number of streams important to spawning sea trout.

Additionally, generous funding from the FRA has enabled work to take place coppicing in Lewarne Coombe – creating much lighter and healthier nursery stretches for salmon parr.

Rob Williams.

Season dates – Catch Limits

River Fowey

Season dates	Sea Trout: 1 st April – 30 th September Salmon: 1 st April – 15 th December
Catch Limits	1 Salmon per day, 2 Salmon per week 5 Salmon per year Sea Trout: 4 Sea trout per day Please release all sea trout in September

River Lynher

Season dates	Sea Trout: 3 rd March – 30 th September Salmon: 1 st March – 14 th October
Catch Limits	2 Salmon per day, 4 Salmon per week 10 Salmon per year Salmon Release Rate: 2 in 3 (66% released)

River Inny

Season dates	Sea Trout: 3 rd March – 30 th September Salmon: 1 st Mar – 14 th 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: 1 st April – 30 th September Salmon: 1 st April – 15 th December
Catch Limits	1 Salmon per day, 2 Salmon per week 5 Salmon per year 4 Sea Trout per day

Season dates – Catch Limits

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

LDAC subscribes to the all Cornwall limit on game fishing and any member's aggregate totals for fish caught across the county should never exceed these quotas. See the back of you season ticket for further details.

Website update

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

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.

Right of Public Access: 2013 has seen a marked increase in the number of members of the public, often walking dogs along the banks of our fishing in Jacks and opposite Lewarne Woods. On many occasions dogs are now also swimming in the river whilst we fish.

The problem stems from the public straying off the forestry paths onto our fishing. New signs have been placed indicating the riverside is private.

If you meet members of the public you should politely point out that they are trespassing, that there is signage indicating this and ask them to leave.

We must all try to nip this in the bud before it becomes accepted practice.



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Tel/Fax: 01579 347 659
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Dates for your Diary

Month	Time / Event	Details
February 2014		
11 th February	19:30 AGM	Constitutional Club, 9 Market St, Liskeard, PL14 3JH
16 th February	10:00 Working Party	Ashford Bridge - Fowey
23 rd February	10:00 Working Party	Doublebois Bridge - Fowey
March 2014		
1 st March	Lynher / Inny	Salmon Season opens
2 nd March	10:00 Working Party	Jacks/Lewarne - Fowey
3 rd March	Lynher / Inny	Sea Trout Season opens
9 th March	10:00 Working Party	Wheelpit/Secret Door - Fowey
16 th March	10:00 Working Party	Dogleg upstream of iron bridge - Lynher
23 rd March	10:00 Working Party	Dogleg downstream of iron bridge - Lynher
April 2014		
1 st April	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Sea Trout & Salmon Seasons opens
May 2014		
1 st May	Camel	Sea Trout & Salmon Seasons opens
September 2014		
30 th September	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Sea Trout Season closes
30 th September	Lynher / Inny/ Camel	Sea Trout Season closes
October 2014		
14 th October	Lynher / Inny	Salmon Season closes
December 2014		
15 th December	Fowey / Seaton / West Looe	Salmon Season closes
15 th December	Camel	Salmon Season closes



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 – post or e-mail to Hon Secretary

Lower Hollycombe
 Drift Lane
 Twowatersfoot
 Liskeard
 PL14 6HH

or sec@ldac.org.uk

We also welcome nominations for the Lynher contribution trophy.

1.	Member's Name Address	Membership No.
	or your email address	
2.	Catch details	
	Date	Time
	River	Beat
	Species	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.