

### **Fishing reports and prospects**

At last we have some decent water in the river and the hot weather has gone. This summer has been one of the poorest for river fishing that I can remember. It has affected most of the country and certainly all of the northern rivers. But now is the time to get out. Autumn is one of my very favourite times of the year for fishing locally (and I have been having some great sport recently). The dry and wet/nymph **fly fishing** will be good for at least the next two months with bait fishing for **Grayling** continuing to be good for most of the winter. If you do find the river low try small nymphs fished in the quick runs or small dry flies cast to rising fish in the flat glides. I suggest you use a 9' or 10' 4-weight rod combined with a fine (3lb) tippet and a leader length of 10-12 feet.

Have any of you caught a Brown Trout of over 3lbs on our stretch this year and you have a photo of it? If so please enter it for the club **Helliwell Trophy**. Just email me a photo and mention the weight or length of the fish. Similarly let me know if you caught a Grayling of 1lb 12oz or more.

Please make a note of **your Trout catches** on our stretch during the 2018 season so that you can submit this information in the New Year with your membership renewal (due in March). We just need to know approximately how many times you fished our river stretch and approximately how many trout you caught.

A lot of my focus this summer has been on our two **coarse fishing** ponds (just to the east of Ben Rhydding). I have been fortunate to land a number of **Tench** weighing between 2lb 12oz and 4lb 14oz (see IAA website 'News' section for pictures). Small Perch have been the most frequent capture for members with sizeable Bream sometimes sighted but never caught. This good fishing is likely to continue on both ponds until at least the first serious frosts. After that it might just be the Pike on the Roadside Pond that remain worth fishing for.

**Working party** – 6<sup>th</sup> October. After the great work already carried out this year we have a further working party scheduled for Saturday morning 6<sup>th</sup> **October** (10am to 1pm 'ish). If you can spare an hour or two or would just like to meet some of the members and committee members for a chat then please do come along. They are enjoyable social events and there will be hot and cold drinks available and bacon / sausage sandwiches (all free). If the weather forecast for the morning is very poor then the working party might not take place. If you want to check then call Steve Fairbourn (club President) on 07515 350929 or myself on 608805.

**Autumn match** – 21<sup>st</sup> **October**. In recent years we have had some successful club matches at **Swinsty Reservoir** (between Ilkley and Harrogate). We usually see lots of Roach, Perch and Bream weighed in with Trout, Gudgeon and Dace also being caught. Our next match there is scheduled for Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Please contact myself or Steve Fairbourn (07515 350929) if you plan to take part.

**Partner clubs** - As you know we have arranged access for you to fish the excellent and varied fly fishing and coarse fishing waters of the **Knaresborough, Wetherby and Skipton clubs**. All you have to do is request to me to fish a specific water on a specific date and so long as two IAA members are not already booked to fish that club's waters then you can go. Maps and details of the waters are on the Wetherby AC <https://wetherbyanglingclub.wixsite.com/wdac/club-waters> and

Skipton AA <http://www.skiptonangling.co.uk/Venues.html> websites. Knaresborough do not have a website but I can email you maps or you can call me for a chat about where might be best to go based on your fishing preferences and the prevailing season/weather/river condition.

**Ponds stock fish?** We are hoping to be able to stock more fish into our Members Pond over the coming six months. Club finances are limited so please will you let me know if you know of any surplus fish that we may be able to acquire locally for little or no cost to the club. Ideally we are looking for silver fish (Roach/Rudd/Skimmers) and mature Bream.

**Ilkley AA website** - We are always in need of new material to ensure that the club's website is interesting and informative. Please send photos, new items and articles to myself, for inclusion. The URL of the website is [www.ilkeyanglingassociation.co.uk](http://www.ilkeyanglingassociation.co.uk).

**Your feedback** - If you have any thoughts on how the fishing on our club waters can be improved or any other suggestions on the running of the club then please give me a call or drop me an email. And if you'd like to participate in the running of the club then we are looking to appoint additional committee members.

'Tight lines'

David Martin, Secretary

September 20th, 2018