

## Members' Newsletter – November 2017, inc. AGM Calling Notice

### Fishing reports and prospects

Despite lots of recent low water conditions the **fly fishing** and **bait fishing** has been good on the **river** these last few weeks. For example on 29<sup>th</sup> October our Chairman/Treasurer Vernon Manville had a good catch of good sized **Grayling** on small dry flies from the top length and recently our bailiff Dave Armstrong caught a very big Grayling on trotted maggots. The best of the fly fishing will be over by the end of November but by fishing weighted nymphs trundled along the river bed there is a chance of catching good Grayling all winter long.

**Chub** fishing is at its best through the winter with bread or cheese hookbaits fished in the late-afternoon/evening or when the river is up a little, giving you the best chance of success. Try for Chub in swims with slower deeper water.

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 2017 season so that you can submit this information in the New Year with your membership renewal (due in March). We need to know how many times you fished our river stretch and how many trout you caught.

For the past two year we have been closely monitoring the activities of the Ilkley sewage treatment plant and our club President Steve Fairbourn has been logging all suspicious discharges into the river. If you see anything suspicious entering the river anywhere on our stretch please immediately call the Environment Agency incident hotline on 0800 807060.

Some sizeable **Pike** upto around 10lbs were caught on lures in the autumn in our **Roadside Pond**. It will be worth trying for Pike all winter long. Floatfished sprat bait is one tactic likely to be successful. Fish swims alongside the road (not the river side) to find the best weed free water.

### Ponds regeneration project

As mentioned in the last newsletter in late-September around 35% of the lily roots in the **Members Pond** were removed in order to try to improve the future fishing prospects in this Ilkley AA owned water. This was followed up by two working parties. Further **working parties** are scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December. These are aimed at increasing the number of fishable swims and improving the access to these swims and their fishing platforms. The Members Pond is not a winter water but by the time next spring arrives the water will be much more fishable by our **coarse anglers** and we are hoping to hear of some good sized **Tench** being caught.

If you do plan to attend a working party but the weather forecast is very poor then the working party might not take place. If you want to check then call Steve Fairbourn on 07515 350929.

## **Winter matches**

Our club winter match series started on 5<sup>th</sup> November. See our website for full details of dates, arrangements, etc. You can still fish most of the club's river length on match days.

Two autumn matches were fished at Swinsty Reservoir (near Harrogate) with large numbers of Roach, Perch, Dace and small Bream being weighed in. The first match was won by Steve Fairbourn and the second one by Danny Ridley.

## **2017 AGM**

The club AGM will take place at the Ilkley Bowling Club (just off Bolton Bridge Road, entrance near to the Co-op supermarket) from 7.30pm on the evening of Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. During the meeting there will be an update on our ponds regeneration project and a **prize raffle** (do you have something that you could donate as a prize?).

There will be an **announcement** at the AGM of some excellent additional fly and coarse waters for you to fish from 25<sup>th</sup> March next year onwards.

There are vacancies for two new committee members so if you'd like to be considered please put your name forward at the AGM. Please put the date in your diary now and try to attend.

## **2018/19 membership prices - unchanged**

Thus there will be no changes taking place for the 2018/19 season in **annual subscription rates**. So you will have access to fish even more waters than before at the same price as before. Membership renewals are due from mid-March 2017.

## **Knaresborough and Wetherby club waters access**

Over the winter months please try to make use of the access to fish agreements that we have in place for you with Knaresborough Piscatorials and Wetherby & District Angling Associations. During 2017 both our fly fishers and our coarse fisher members had some excellent sport on their waters (with Trout, Grayling, Perch and Barbel) at no cost, over and above their normal Ilkley AA membership subscriptions.

Booking is very easy – just email, phone or text me to book your preferred date and water. You can go as often as you want but you must book every day in advance with myself. Feel free to call or email me for more information about the waters of the two clubs and I can email or post to you access maps. Also Wetherby AA has a good website.

## **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.ilkleyanglingassociation.co.uk](http://www.ilkleyanglingassociation.co.uk).

## **Your feedback**

If you have any news or any ideas 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.

'Tight lines'

David Martin  
Secretary

20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017