

Est. 1883



B.A.A. NEWS



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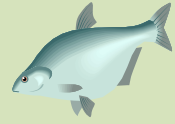
A difficult time for fishing!



The view from Jubilee Bridge towards Fladbury at the height of flooding on the Avon.



Fishing news



Pershore and Fladbury floods

Due to the arrival of winter, the prolonged flooding of the rivers and the recent frosts freezing our pools and canals, the opportunity to go fishing has been limited. As a result we have had received no pictures from our members of fish caught this month.

To help fill what is a rather sparse edition this month I have included some pictures taken of the Avon in flood at Pershore and Fladbury on the last day of 2012. I did see a few anglers at both locations, so if you do manage to fish please send us pictures, but be careful especially on the rivers.







Fishing news record

for last 12 months

fish/catcher	lb	oz	location	method	date caught	BAA News edition
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Barbel

River Severn

Steve Swain	13	5	Mid Severn	Pellet and feeder	03/03/2012	April 2012
Malcolm Ford	12	3		Luncheon meat	28/07/2012	Aug 2012
Steve Swain	12		Mid Severn	Halibut pellet hook bait on size 7 hook, pellet & hemp feeder	14/03/2012	April 2012
Brian Rossiter	11	12	Severn Stoke	Cage feeder & banded pellet	19/10/2012	Nov 2012
Steve Swain	11		Mid Severn	As above	10/03/2012	April 2012
Brian Newstead	10	14	Holt Fleet	14mm halibut pellet	Sept 2011	May 2012
? Nichols	10	8	Severn Stoke		21/08/2012	Oct 2012
Brian Rossiter	10		Severn Stoke	Cage feeder & banded pellet	19/10/2012	Nov 2012
Karen Summerfield	9	2	Ribbesford		?	Oct 2012
Roy Price	9	1	Arley	2 x 8mm halibut pellets over bed of 3mm pellets	13/07/2012	Aug 2012
Bob Bennett	9	1	Erdington	2 x 12mm halibut pellets	13/07/2012	Aug 2012
Andy Lea	8	9	Danery	3 x 8mm halibut pellets fished over pellett, groundbait and hemp mix	28/06/2012	July 2012

River Avon

Chris Blunt	15	4	Fladbury	2 x 11mm pellet	14/03/2012	April 2012
Chris Blunt	14	1	Fladbury	2 x 11mm pellet	12/01/2012	April 2012
David Holland	10	12	Wasperton		14/07/2012	Aug 2012
Rob Holland	10	8	Wasperton		14/07/2012	Aug 2012
Steve Welland	10		Wasperton	Meat	11/03/2012	April 2012
Chris Blunt	8	12	Fladbury	Pellet	14/03/2012	April 2012
David Johnson	5	1	Fladbury	12m bloodworm boilie, barbel bomb & hemp groundbait	26/02/2012	Mar 2012

River Teme

John Morgan	10	5	Stanford Bridge		?	April 2012
Steve Welland	10		Stanford Bridge		July 2012	Aug 2012

Bream

River Severn

Ben Keen	6	Ladyham	Maggot/groundbait feeder	16/06/2012	July 2012
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River Avon

Graham Beck	6	Marlcliff	Maggots/maggot feeder	Aug 2012	Sep 2012
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Pools

Darren Davies	6	Mythe Pool	Double sweetcorn with open end feeder	May 2012	June 2012
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Kevin Smith	5	Coppice		03/05/2012	May 2012
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Kevin Smith	4	8	Coppice	03/05/2012	May 2012
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Kevin Smith	4	Coppice		03/05/2012	May 2012
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Colin Weed	4	Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012
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Common Carp

River Severn

Andy Keen	9	Ladyham	Stick float fished tight to bank, single white maggot, 18 hook, 1.7lb hook length, 3lb mainline	17/09/2012	Oct 2012
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Pools

John Morgan	22	5	Coppice	Bottom fished boilie	09/05/2012	June 2012
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Graham Sheldon	22	1	Coppice		Oct 2012	Dec 2012
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Graham Sheldon	20	8	Coppice		Oct 2012	Dec 2012
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Jack Parkes	20	2	Coppice		24/03/2012	April 2012
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Kevin Smith	20		Coppice		03/05/2012	May 2012
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Sam Chapman	19	6	Mythe		26/07/2012	Aug 2012
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Kevin Smith	17		Uckinghall		03/06/2012	June 2012
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Kevin Smith	17		Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012
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Kev Abel	15		Coppice		18/08/2012	Sep 2012
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Kevin Smith	14	10	Coppice		02/11/2012	Dec 2012
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Kevin Smith	14	4	Coppice		02/11/2012	Dec 2012
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Kevin Smith	14	1	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
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Kevin Smith	13	9	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
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Kevin Smith	12	13	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
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Colin Weed	9	12	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
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Ghost Carp

Canals

John Morgan	24	8	Staffs & Worcs	Bottom fished boilie	2010	June 2012
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Leather Carp

Canals

Jonathan Albutt	19		Birmingham Worcester	Stalking tactics in the margins	?	Oct 2012
Steve Ridd	13	5	Trent & Mersey Canal, Fradley	Foul hooked when plugging for predators	10/01/2012	Feb 2012

Mirror Carp

Pools

Michael Cross	31		Coppice	Boilie	25/03/2012	April 2012
John Morgan	29	11	Coppice	Zig rigged pop-up	09/05/2012	June 2012
Kevin Smith	20		Coppice	Boilie	03/04/2012	April 2012
Scott Lote	20		Coppice		?	Oct 2012
Kevin Smith	17		Coppice		24/04/2012	May 2012
Kevin Smith	15	7	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Colin Weed	11		Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012

Chub

River Avon

David Wood	6	7	Marlcliff		?	Sep 2012
Paul Wood	6	5	Marlcliff		?	Sep 2012
Matthew Smith	6	0	Pershore	2 x 12mm halibut pellet	04/07/2012	Aug 2012
Chris Blunt	4	12	Fladbury	Bread	14/03/2012	April 2012

River Teme

Cameron Preece	4	4	Broadwas		Aug 2012	Sep 2012
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Grayling

River Teme

Tim Gilson	1	0	Lindridge	Ledgered maggot	Feb 2012	April 2012
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Perch

River Severn

Joe Boles	2	8	Arley RB Harbour		15/09/2012	Oct 2012
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Pools

Mark Latham	3	8	Coppice	Float fished double maggot	06/11/2012	Dec 2012
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Pike

River Avon

Neil Walker	16	7	Fladbury	Paternostered sardine.	15/12/2012	Feb 2012
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Roach

River Severn

Andy Lea	2	4	Danery	3 x 8mm halibut pellets fished over pellet, groundbait and hemp mix	28/06/2012	July 2012
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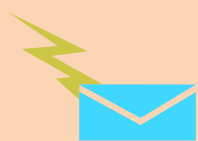
Tench

River Avon

Derek Gabb	3	14	Pershore LB	Hair rigged cut down boillie and swim feeder full of pellets	Aug 2012	Oct 2012
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Pools

Tony Barnett	5	4	Uckinghall	Float fished single red maggot	06/10/2012	Nov 2012
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Readers' letters



If you have any items, thoughts, issues you want to air in the BAA news, please email it to baajnw@btinternet.com titled for attn of BAA News Editor.

When sending in a comment can you please let us know if you don't want your name included?

The Editor will act as moderator for items to be included.

What an absolute joke that your own fisheries team break your own rules by leaving a rod unattended on there jolly boys outing, what an excellent example this sets to the hoards of yobo fishermen that already patrol the majority of your water and to be stupid enough to leave a write up beggars belief.

Neil Bradley

Angling Trust Media Releases

Angling Trust joins Blogosphere to spread the fishing message

The Angling Trust is formally launching five new blogs this week covering news and views from angling's national representative body, the pollution fighters at Fish Legal, campaigns, sea and game angling and regional round ups.

The Trust hopes that anglers and our friends in the angling media will find the blogs a useful source of up to date news and information presented in a lively and accessible way.

A further blog on Angling Trust competitions is planned and the five new blogs can be found here:

The Inside Angle - Mark Lloyd's Angling trust and Fish Legal blog

<http://insideangle.wordpress.com/>

Fighting for Fishing - Martin Salter's Angling Trust Campaigns Blog

<http://fightingforfishing.wordpress.com/>

Tide Lines - David Mitchell's Angling Trust Sea Fishing Blog

<http://atseafishing.wordpress.com/>

Round the Regions - Reports from the Angling Trust Regions

<http://atregions.wordpress.com/>

Chuckin' Fluff - Angling Trust Gamefishing Blog

<http://atgamefishing.wordpress.com/>

Martin Salter, Angling Trust Campaigns Chief said:

"I guess we've been a bit too analogue in the past and somewhat slow to join the blogosphere but we are putting that right from now on. By offering five different blogs from senior figures in the Trust we can cover most bases and give anglers up to date news and views on what is happening in our sport. I really enjoy putting our case out there and encourage all anglers to start following their areas of interest on the new Angling Trust blogs."

Mark Lloyd, Angling Trust Chief Executive said:

"As a membership organisation, we're always looking at ways of keeping in touch with our members so that they have a better idea about how we are working to protect and improve fish stocks and fishing. These blogs are a more personal and informal way of doing that and sharing new ideas, funny snippets and gossip. I hope that anglers find time to read them from time to time to find out what we are doing and thinking."

Benyon rejects canoeists campaign to paddle over anglers' rights

Angling bodies have been getting increasingly concerned at the conduct of the British Canoe Union (BCU) and Canoe England (CE) who are encouraging canoeists to defy the law and trample over anglers rights.

They have been promoting a 'Right to Paddle' campaign for several years and simply refuse to acknowledge the existence of limitations on navigation in civil law. Both organisations promote canoeing guides and events which encourage canoeing on rivers where no lawful right of navigation exists.

Organised trespasses are becoming all the more commonplace and are promoted through the 'independent' website 'Song of the Paddle' www.songofthepaddle.co.uk which promotes what they call 'open canoeing'.

The Angling Trust recently sought clarification on the canoeists demands from Fisheries and Natural Environment Minister Richard Benyon. The minister strongly rebutted the notion of an automatic 'right to paddle' up every stream, brook and river in the country regardless of the impact on either the environment or other river users.

Richard Benyon made it clear in an interview for the Angling Trust members magazine The Angle that there will be no legal right to paddle without the riparian owners permission. The previous Labour government was clear on this and the policy of voluntary access agreements only has now been re-affirmed by the Coalition government.

Text from Fisheries and Natural Environment Minister Richard Benyon's interview on canoeists:

Q - Angling Trust: Will you rule out a statutory 'right to paddle' for canoeists?

A - Richard Benyon: *I want to be really clear about this. While we want more people to get out and enjoy activities in the countryside they must be complimentary. There are plenty of places to canoe where it is appropriate and others where it is not. There will be no change to our policy of supporting voluntary access agreements as the only way forward. Anglers and fishery owners spend a lot of time and money caring for our rivers and streams and their rights deserve to be respected*

Angling Trust National Campaigns Coordinator Martin Salter said:

"The Angling Trust has been challenging the claims being made by militant canoeists that they should have a right paddle up every river, stream or brook in Britain irrespective of ownership or the impact this has on wildlife or other people's enjoyment. The rights of navigation are clear in law and there are thousands of miles of navigable rivers and waterways to which canoeists have legal access. We also have well worked voluntary access agreements in place which allow canoeing on some rivers such as the Dart and the upper Wye at times of high water when fishing will not be affected.

Because the BCU is refusing to recognise the law of the land it is pulling out of these voluntary access agreements claiming they are now unnecessary. The rejection of a 'right to paddle' by Richard Benyon is most welcome and we call upon the organisations that represent canoeists to recognise the law of the land and that it is not going to be changed in their favour any time soon.

Continued authorised trespasses by the BCU could put funding for their sport in jeopardy which would be a shame as there is plenty of water out there for everyone to share provided that people agree to operate within the law and do not think that they can trample over the rights of anglers and others."

Environment Agency under Fire over Hydropower 'Omnishambles'

The Environment Agency has come in for severe criticism this week for failing to uphold its duties to 'to maintain, improve and develop fisheries' and to 'consider and give due weight to fisheries' when granting impoundment licences associated with hydropower schemes. The Angling Trust and fisheries conservation charities have joined forces to write a strongly-worded letter to Paul Leinster, Chief Executive of the Environment Agency highlighting his organisation's shambolic regulation of hydropower and demanding immediate action.

The recent successful action by Fish Legal on behalf of the Pride of Derby Angling Club at Sawley weir to halt the damaging hydropower scheme on the river Trent was seriously hindered by the actions of the EA who granted an impoundment licence to the developers without any regard to the impact on the fishery. The developers were granted a permit by the Agency which allowed them to kill up to 10 adult salmon and 100 coarse fish in a 24 hour period without fear of enforcement action. By granting this licence the Agency also gave a private company a statutory defence to any civil claims against it for damaging the fishery caused by changing water levels and flow rates.

The Angling Trust, supported by the Salmon & Trout Association and the Atlantic Salmon Trust, has written to Paul Leinster to demand immediate action to protect rivers and fish stocks from hydropower developments. Representatives of these organisations will meet with Mr. Leinster in January to discuss these points and to highlight the concerns of anglers and fishery owners.

Angling Trust and Fish Legal Chief Executive Mark Lloyd said: *"This minimal level of attention is utterly inadequate from a public body which has a statutory duty to maintain, improve and develop fisheries and the Judge's decision that the fishing rights would be significantly harmed demonstrates the EA's failure in this regard.*

"What's more, by granting the licence, the EA made it much harder for Fish Legal to fight its civil legal action to stop the Sawley development going ahead. We still won the case but no thanks to the Environment Agency whose handling of hydropower applications is nothing short of an 'omnishambles'"

Angling Trust Writes to the BBC About Otter Programme

The Angling Trust has written to the BBC to complain about the inadequate coverage of the impact of predation on fisheries in the Springwatch programme about otters.

The full text of the letter is reproduced below.

Dear BBC,

I am writing to complain about your Springwatch programme about otters broadcast on Thursday 20th December. Whilst it was welcome that there was some acknowledgement of the problems that the rapid increase in otter numbers has caused to stillwater fisheries, the issue was limited to a very brief segment of the hour long programme.

It also failed to mention the impact of otters on fish stocks in rivers in many parts of the country and the fact that large numbers of otters were released into the wild in some areas, without any consultation with angling clubs or fisheries. These releases have had severe implications for anglers, angling clubs and fisheries.

It was disappointing that no-one from the BBC contacted the Angling Trust, which is the representative body for all anglers in England, about the programme. If someone had contacted us, we would have been able to explain better the impacts on our member angling clubs and fisheries of captive-bred otters, and their offspring, particularly in light of increased predation from cormorants, over-abstraction, diffuse pollution and barriers to fish migration, all of which reduce the ability of fish populations to withstand predation.

Angling is a major industry and employer, generating £3.5 billion each year and employing 37,000 people. It is also enjoyed by more than 3 million participants in England and Wales. The Angling Trust is working hard to increase this participation and the social and economic benefits that arise from it. The programme could have made clear how important angling is to people and communities throughout the country.

As the presenter acknowledged, this is a 'tricky' issue. However, his conclusion that fencing is the solution was inadequate; it is not possible to fence all still waters in the country and it is obviously impossible to fence rivers.

If you had consulted us on the programme, we would have been able to explain this to you and let you know the work that is being done to investigate other deterrents and to understand better the relationship between predation and fish stocks and what could be done to manage this sustainably.

Springwatch and Autumnwatch have consistently failed to include any substantial coverage of fish in their content. While we appreciate that they are not seen as being cuddly, they are a vital part of aquatic ecosystems and every bit as important the other wildlife that is featured in such detail in your programmes. As I pointed out earlier, they are also the passion of 3 million of your viewers, so perhaps deserve more attention.

I hope that in future you will consult us about these types of issues to ensure that a more balanced view is presented about issues affecting fish and fishing.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Lloyd

Chief Executive, Angling Trust.

New records ratified at latest meeting of British Record (rod-caught) Fish Committee



The BRFC met at Fishmongers Hall, London, on 14th December 2012.

Present were: Mike Heylin (Chairman), David Rowe (Secretary), Oliver Crimmen (Scientific Advisor, Natural History Museum), Nigel Hewlett (Scientific Advisor, Environment Agency), Chris Clark (Angling Trust - marine), Andy Nellist (Angling Trust - freshwater), Keith Speer (Angling Trust - freshwater) and Nick Simmonds (Angling Trust - secretariat)

The following claims were ratified by the committee as new or equal records:

Coarse fish:				
Specie	Record weight	Captor's name	Date caught & venue	Previous record
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	6lb 3oz (2.806kg) (Equal record)	Kenneth Brown	18/09/2012 Wilstone Reservoir	6lb 3oz
Silver Bream (<i>Blicca bjoerkna</i>)	2lb 15oz (1.332kg) (Equal interim record)	Gary Barnett	09/10/2011 Mill Farm Fishery	2lb 15oz
Silver Bream (<i>Blicca bjoerkna</i>)	3lb 4oz (1.474kg)	Gareth Evans	21/05/2012 Mill Farm, Pulborough	2lb 15oz
Crucian Carp (<i>Carassius carassius</i>)	4lb 9oz (2.068kg) (Equal record)	Philip Smith	07/08/2004 Yateley, Hampshire	4lb 9oz