



Robin Lambert editor www.scottishflyfisher.co.uk

Welcome to the Scottish Flyfisher Magazine's quarterly October 2022 issue.

If you would like to let other people know about your flyfishing day out, or want to say something or ask a question about the fly-fishing in Scotland then email in to me at <a href="mailto:editor.scottishflyfisher@gmail.com">editor.scottishflyfisher@gmail.com</a> and I will add them to the magazine or to the "Have Your Say" page.

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If you would like to advertise your fly-fishing business or holiday accommodation within either the magazine or the parent website, please contact me directly at <a href="mailto:editor.scottishflyfisher@gmail.com">editor.scottishflyfisher@gmail.com</a> for an advertisement rates card.





#### The Editors Bit (BITE)

Like many golden oldies out there on the water casting a fly or two, I started off fly fishing when I was about 13 years old when one of my school pals introduced me to the fine art of fly fishing.

I think then it was normal to get our bikes out when we lived at Burdiehouse in Edinburgh and cycle all the way to the Eddleston and fish the Eddleston burn all the way into Peebles and then fish the river Tweed.

God that brings back some memories, as then we did not have mobile phones or games consoles to stick our noses in all day and night, we had to make do with what we had and enjoy the freedom of the great outdoors and friendships along the way.

It's really hard now adays to try and get the kids interested in the sport as like I said they are more interested on what's on Tik Tok, Facebook and all the other platforms out there, or sitting there going cross-eyed playing their damn video games all day and night.

It would be great to get them involved as I said it's mostly old codgers like me that are still into it, I've tried with my grandkids but to no avail, my grandson started getting into it but then like I said the damn mobile phone and games consoles took over.

Let's try and get them interested in the fine art of fly fishing and fly tying it might help them to broaden their horizons and make better friends along the way that will last longer than the Facebook or games console ones.

Also, I've been speaking to a lot of people over the last few months and they were saying that there are some great flyfishing clubs out there that are now started to fold due to it only being senior citizens in them and they are slowly but surely like us all one day passing away.

If you know any fly-fishing clubs within Scotland who are looking for new members? Then ask them to email me their details and information on the club and I will start adding them to my magazine and the parent website. That way the clubs can go on a lot longer than they are today.



# LINLITHGOW LOCH FISHERY Forth Area Federation Of Anglers

# Flies For Sale Buzzers, Nymphs, Lures Wet and Dry Flies



Reasonably priced from 75p per fly plus £1.00 P&P 12 Flies minimum order

> Available from <u>The Scottish Flyfisher</u>



#### River Don

The river Don is a river in north-east Scotland. It rises in the Grampians and flows eastwards, through Aberdeenshire, to the North Sea at Aberdeen. The Don passes through Alford, Kemnay, Inverurie, Kintore, and Dyce. Its main tributary, the river Ury, joins at Inverurie.

The Don rises in the peat flat beneath Druim na Feithe, and in the shadow of Glen Avon, before flowing quietly past the ice-age moraine and down to Cock Bridge, below the picturesque site of the recently demolished Delnadamph Lodge. Several streams, the

Dhiver, Feith Bhait, Meoir Veannaich, Cock Burn and the Allt nan Aighean merge to form the embryonic Don. Water from the north of Brown Cow Hill (grid reference NJ230045) drains into the Don, while water from the west side runs into the River Spey and that from the south side into the Dee. The Don follows a circuitous route eastward past Corgarff Castle, through Strathdon and the Howe of Alford before entering the North Sea just north of Old Aberdeen.

The chief tributaries are Conrie Water, Ernan Water, Water of Carvie, Water of Nochty, Deskry Water, Water of Buchat, Kindy Burn, Bucks Burn, Mossat Burn, Leochel Burn and the River Ury.

The river Don is well known for being a good Salmon River, it also has a very good reputation for sea trout, but the reason why most anglers visit the river Don is to fish for its cracking wild brown trout. The Don has some excellent fly water with plenty of fast flowing streamy runs and rocky pools.

You will also find some lovely glides and slow deep holding pools where the trout often rise freely in the evening to abundant fly life - but not always! It is a wonderful river to explore and with such a great variety of water and locations to fish, you are bound to find somewhere that will become your favourite

The upper reaches of the river can produce superb brown trout sport in April and May, after which the fish become trickier to catch.

The Don trout can be very selective as to what they feed on, with a distinct preference for olives, hence most local anglers are seldom found without a Greenwells Glory on their leader somewhere. River Don dark olives seem to be larger than the norm, so a size 12 fly will often prove more successful.

The aquatic life on the river is prolific and diverse, but there are certain styles and species which dominate the fish's diet.

There is a large quantity of freshwater shrimp to be found around the weedier sections of river and this can be a really effective pattern. The Don shrimps tend to be a light straw colour and about a size 14, Polish/Czech style nymphs in tan/cream and green/yellow colours are also effective. Goldhead hare's ears and copper head red fox squirrel nymphs are really useful to carry too

Day fishing permit prices can vary considerably on the river Don, fishing beats offering brown trout fishing full day permits in the region of £25 and salmon/trout full day permits in the region of £35 are the beats where you will find local anglers fishing.

The Alford Angling Association waters.

2 beats on the middle/upper Don. Waterside 1.1 miles left bank and Haughton 1.1 miles right bank. Over two miles of excellent fishing, 10 named pools.

Good car parking and access. Great local facilities including accommodation. There are a number of fishing beats that offer day fishing permits costing quite a bit more than the above, but these do not necessarily offer better quality fishing, or better maintained riverbanks.



# Glasgow Angling Centre

Unit I The Point Retail Park. 29 Seracen Street, Glasgow, G22 SHT

GLASGOW: 0141 212 8880



# Edinburgh Angling Centre

Unit E Granton Retail Park,

West Harbour Road, Edinburgh, EHS 1PW EDINBURGH: 0131 202 6351



OR THE MOST



# SOVERRA Helmsdale Wading Jacket

The Helmodale Winding jacket is made for the unpredictable ather you encounter by the river or fishing along the constitue The 2-layer jacket is 100% waterproof and very breathable, which makes it easier for temperature to adjust and make you focus on fishing. The shorter design makes it perfect for wading

- 3-layer Wading jacket with membrane 8.000mm/\$.000mm
- Nylos Tasion 100% polyester fabric with thick PU coating

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RRP: 6139.99



#### SOVERRA Helmsdale 20000 Chest Stocking Foot Waders The Scienza Helmedale breathable weders range, are

produced with focus on movement, comfort and durability

- Massive 20,000 Vester proof I layer material

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## SCIERRA Helmsdale 3/4 Fishing Jacket

This 2-layer jacket is 100% waterproof avvi very breathable, which makes it easier to focus on your fishing.



### SCIERRA Helmsdale Fishing Trousers

trousers that is great for fishing but will also be the perfect trousers for hiking

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#### SCIERRA Helmsdale 20000 Bootfoot Waist Waders

30,000 Hydrostatic Head Wisterprof 3 layer material

· Vertical outling technology for active movement support

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# Helmsdale 20000 Chest Bootfoot Wader - 20,000 Hydrostatic Hear,

Waterprof 3 layer material

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The team at Greys wanted to offer an aboviative to their heavier outerwear with this lacket. Made from a lighter weight Climates' material, the jacket is a lighter, cooler jacket qualities for a jacket which is so lightweight

Perfect as an outer shell when layering, or a packable waterproof for warmer weather

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RRP: £159.99



#### day dry, comfortable performance at a great value. · 3-Layer Waterproof Breathable Polyester in upper 4-Layer Wisherproof Breathable Polyester in lower · Reach-through fleece lined hand warmer pocket. with zippered top stash pocket.

· Self-fabric gravel guard with gathered elastic bottom he

Waders with a durable, breathable 3- and 4-tayer build for el-

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DP Switch

# HODGMAN

NADELITE Jacke

You never know when you'll get at in Mother Neture's next downwout but you'll know you are repared for it with How demand Street, Wastel, Itelli

RRP: 4300.00



Sigma Fly Combos

A complete out/1 with fitted fly line to makely the and reel outfit in a specially designed Rod



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# Oracle Salmon Rods

The best selling, best value salmon fly rods ever at a fantastic price!

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Visit our website to order online: fishingmegastore.com

#### ARDY & D GREYS SALE Save a minimum of 40% off selected rods!

# **▶ GREYS** GR80 Powerlux Single Hand Fly Rods



The Greys GR80 rod range has been massively upgraded with the introduction of 3M Powerlux 1000™ resin into its high modulus carbon construction. Lightweight, refined actions combined with increased strength and impact resistance result in a range of rods to meet the demands of all river and stillwater anglers.

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
GR2690	9ft	#5	4	£399.99	£240.00
GR2692	9ft	#7	4	£349.99	£210.00
GR2693	9ft	#8	4	£389.99	£235.00
GR2697	10ft	#8	4	£399.99	£240.00
GR2698	11ft	#7	4	£414.99	£250.00

# **OGREYS** GR80 Powerlux Comp Special Fly Rods



Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
GR2705	9ft 6	#7	4	£424.99	£255.00
GR2704	10ft	#8	4	£424.99	£255.00

Legendary withing serious stillwater competition circles, the "Comp Special" as it's widely known is specifically tuned for the challenges of competition fishing, fast actioned yet still surprisingly versatile. The Competition Special is the ultimate high performance stillwater fly rod

# **▶** GREYS GR80 Powerlux Streamflex Fly Rods



The previous streamflex generation rods were a favourite the world over, the new Greys GR80 Streamflex range of rods lifts the bar again with upgraded actions and construction benefiting from the inclusion of 3M Powerlux 1000™ resin. Fast recovering, smooth, medium-fast action, they are built for river fishermen from dry fly right through to heavy nymphing.

GR2717	6ft6	#3	4	£299.99	£180.00
GR2718	7ft	#3	4	£299.99	£180.00
GR2719	7ft6	#4	4	£309.99	£185.00
GR2721	8ft6	#5	4	£319.99	£195.00
GR2722	9ft	#3	4	£329.99	£199.00
GR2723	9ft	#4	4	£329.99	£199.00
GR2725	9ft	#6	4	£329.99	£199.00
GR2712	10ft	#3	4	£349.99	£210.00
GR2715	11ft	#3	4	£349.99	£210.00
GR2716	11ft	#4	4	£349.99	£210.00

Streamf	lex Plus wi	th ha	ndle	extensio	n
	9ft6 - 10ft	#3		£389.99	
GR2726	10 - 10ft6	#3	4	£389.99	£235.00
GR2728	9ft6 - 10ft	#4	4	£389.99	£235.00

# **OGREYS** GR80 Powerlux Travel Rods

The convenience of 6 section design with the performance of 4 section. The GR80 Travel now with Powerlux 1000 resin is designed as the perfect companion for your international travels but it's also ideal for hiding under your car for a sneaky few hours on the way home from work.

Single Hand Fly Rods

GR2709

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
GR2730	9ft	#5	6	£349.99	£210.00
GR2731	9ft 6	#7	6	£389.99	£235.00

Double Hand Salmon Pod

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
GR2729	14ft 6	#9	6	£599.99	£360.00

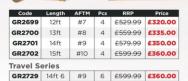
## **OGREYS** GR80 Powerlux Salt Fly Rods

£389.99 £235.00



Designed to meet the challenge of the demanding saltwater environment the GR80 S is the perfect choice for everything from Balti-Seatrout to Florida Tarpon.

# **▶ GREYS** GR80 Powerlux Double Hand Salmon Fly Rods



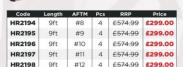
The Greys GR80 rod range has been massively upgraded with the introduction of 3M Powerla 1000™ resin into its high modulus carbon construction. Lightweight, refined actions combined with increased strength and impact resistance result in a range of rods to meet the demands of all Salmon anglers.

## **OGREYS** GR80 Prowla Fly Rods

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
GR2774	9ft	#7	4	£399.99	£199.00
GR2775	9ft	#8	4	£319.99	£199.00
GR2776	9ft	#9	4	£339.99	£199.00
GR2777	9ft	#10	4	£349.99	£199.00
GR2778	9ft	#11	4	£359.99	£199.00
GR2779	9ft	#12	4	£359.99	£199.00

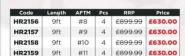
A high performance 4 section fly rod built to handle heavy lines, big flies, and the challenges of targeting large predatory species in demanding conditions.

# HARDY Zane Sintrix Fly Rods



Based on the blank design of the awardwinning Proaxis series of Rods, the all-new Zane series brings performance, durability, and refinement in a range of lengths and line sizes to suit all saltwater and predator anglers.

# HARDY HBX Saltwater Single Handed Fly Rods



The HBX rod range offers a rod for all situations. Whether its hooking monster Tarpon in the Keys, or free rising Trout in a small brook, the versatile four piece HBX

# **OREYS GX1000 Fly Reel**

The GX1000 Fly Reels have had as much material possible, making them incredibly but without compromising the strength and robustness of its profile.



				-
Code	Model	Capacity	RRP	Price
GR2747	10/11/12	WF11 + 211m	£309.99	£155

#### **D**GREYS

**QRS** Cassette Fly Reels

The perfect anglers who like to swap the conditions at hand.



Code	Model	Capacity	RRP	Price
GR2558	2/3, 4/5	WF3+45m, WF5+60m	£114.99	£100.00
GR2560	9/10, 11/12	WF10+220m, WF12+275m	£149.99	£100.00

# **HARDY Demon Sintrix Fly Rods**

#### Single Hand

Code	Length	AFTM	PCS	RRP	Price
HR2103	7ft	#5	4	£392.99	£342.00
HR2104	8ft	#4	4	£454.99	£410.00
HR2107	9ft	#5	4	£479.99	£430.00
HR2111	9ft	#9	4	£399.99	£320.00
HR2112	9ft	#10	4	£409.99	£330.00
HR2114	9ft6	#7	4	£514.99	£460.00
HR2116	10ft	#5	4	£539.99	£485.00
HR2117	10ft	#6	4	£539.99	£485.00
HR2118	10ft	#7	4	£539.99	£485.00

and faster recovery than the much loved Jet series rods. Hardy Demon is manufactured in Sintrix 330 for increased strength to weight ratio and improved in hand balance

Fully redesigned blanks offer lighter weight

#### **Double Hand**

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
HR2124	12ft 9	#8/9	4	£799.99	£720.00
HR2125	13ft 9	#9/10	4	£849.99	£765.00
HR2126	14ft 9	#10/11	4	£929.99	£835.00

#### Switch

Code	Length	AFTM	Pcs	RRP	Price
HR2175	10ft 6	#3/4	4	£454.99	£364.00
HR2176	10ft 6	#4/5	4	£454.99	£364.00
HR2120	11ft	#5/6	4	£549.99	£440.00

# **GREYS GTS300 Fly Reels**

WF8 + 85m

The Greys GTS300 reel features a strong smooth Rulon disc drag system and the die-cast full aluminium construction results in a great

strength to

Code

weight ratio.

GR2564 6/7/8



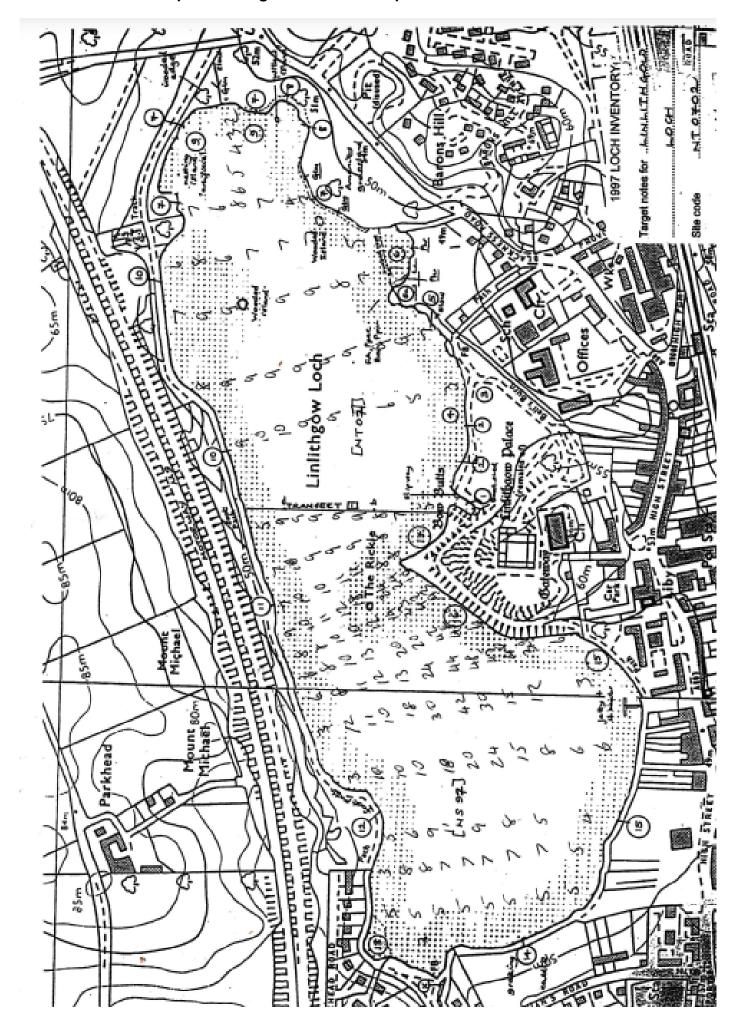
£44.99

# **Bougle Heritage** Flv Reels

HR1730

	ne first	10 years t Bougle ed.			
Code	Model	Capacity	RRP	Price	
HR1726	2 13/16	DT2+25m/20lb	£499.99	£300	
HR1727	3	DT2+70m/20lb	£539.99	£320	
HR1728	3 1/4	DT4+100m/20lb	£549.99	£385	
HR1729	3 1/2	DT6+70m/20lb	£549.99	£385	

DT10+255m/30lb £639.99



#### Sea Trout Fishing Within Scotland



The sea trout is the same fish as the brown trout, that has migrated to the sea to feed and returns to the river of its birth to spawn.

Nobody knows why some trout migrate and others don't. This sea trout pound for pound is recognised as Scotland's best fighting fish and into the bargain provides a fantastic meal.

Catching a sea trout is considered by many anglers to require the highest level of water craft and provide the most exhilarating experience within the world of angling.

Sea trout can be caught during the day but are generally fished for under the cover of darkness adding to the angler's excitement and adrenalin rush when catching and landing one, as the fish can give you a good run for your money, when hooked.

Fly fishing is normally the practiced method, although some rivers do allow bait fishing and spinning in high water conditions.

The main sea trout migration begins with the larger fish (3lb-8lb, larger fish are occasionally caught) around May with the majority of shoal fish (1-3lb) entering the river systems in June and July.

A sea trout had been caught by an angler on the River Leven in Teesside in 2014 – marking a huge milestone in efforts to bring migratory fish back to the area.

In what is believed to be the first rod catch of sea trout on the Leven since the Industrial Revolution, the angler who landed the fish reported the exciting catch to the Environment Agency.

The Leven is a tributary of the river Tees, where salmon and sea trout catch data show that migratory fish are returning to the catchment following decades of absence.

Water quality in the river Tees, following the Industrial Revolution, used to be so bad that fish could not live in it. But the Environment Agency and its partners have worked hard to improve water quality and ensure that fish can move upstream.

Within Scotland there is an abundant number of rivers and lochs available for fishing for sea trout, from the Scottish Islands to the southern rivers bordering England.

The sea trout still come during the short Scottish summer to the rivers of the East and South, to the Spey, Dee and South Esk, to the Earn, Nith and Annan. Sadly, to say perhaps not in the numbers of the past

decades but hopefully with the improvement of the rivers and here's hoping the demise of some of the salmon and trout fish farms that are causing a major problem for the migratory fish like the salmon and sea trout, that they will one day return to prolific the rivers and lochs like they used to.

The sea trout is a difficult fish to catch during the light of day, in all but spate conditions, the sea trout will sometimes not be active until under the cover of darkness.

So therefore, any sea trout angler must then be, like the sea trout, be able and willing to venturing out after dusk and fish through the darker hours of the night on a river running at or near summer low level, or on some obscure loch to catch your elusive sea trout.

So, then what does the sea trout angler need in the way of sea trout fishing tackle.

#### **Sea Trout Fly Rods**

The sea trout fisher's choice of rod will again depend on the nature of his river, for, with the notable exception of our famous sea trout lochs such as Maree, Stack, More, Hope, Shiel, Eilt and Lomond, it is mainly in the river that we hunt the sea trout. Sea trout run most of our rivers here in Scotland, from the largest to the smallest, so our choice of tackle must suit the circumstance. On a small river, a rod as short as nine feet might be enough, but in general, on medium and large rivers, even with the river at summer low, a better choice would be a rod of ten or ten and a half feet, capable of handling large flies on a number seven or eight line. I have always liked a rod with a through action and have used for many years a rod built on a ten and a half feet Bruce and Walker Multitrout rod blank, rated 6/7. This rod will comfortably cast any size of fly on a number seven or eight double tapered line. I would say that an ideal all round sea trout rod for night fishing on Scottish rivers would be a through actioned ten-foot rod paired with a double tapered number seven line.

#### **Sea Trout Fly Reels**

The main requirement of a sea trout reel is that it will hold a number eight floating line (double tapered or weight forward) and a hundred yards of backing line. Such a reel is likely to have a diameter of about three-and three-quarter inches and a spool width of about one inch.

To enable the faster retrieval of line, many experienced sea trout fishers prefer a geared "Multiplier" reel,

#### **Trout Fly Lines**

Most keen sea trout fishers will be recommended to having a variety of line densities for varying conditions and times, a floating line for early in the night, particularly in low water conditions, with the option of additional lines with different sinking rates for high water or when the sea trout have "gone down" late in the night.

I would say that about eighty percent of the fishing is done with a floating line, a double tapered line in size seven or eight. An intermediate line or line with a sink tip is useful when the river is running slightly high or for later in the night when the temperatures fall drastically.



#### **Traditional Scottish Sea Trout Flies**

Flies for sea trout fishing on the rivers and lochs were, for the most part, large versions of trout flies, usually in sizes ten and eight, and very effective they were.

The ten most popular Scottish sea trout flies are as follows: Butcher, Peter Ross, Teal & Silver, Dunkeld, Mallard & Claret, Silver Doctor, Grouse & Claret, Pheasant & Yellow, Blae & Blue and Blae & Black.

I will be adding to my website <a href="https://www.scottishflyfisher.co.uk/sea-trout">https://www.scottishflyfisher.co.uk/sea-trout</a> with a full listing as possible information on the best locations within Scotland in regional areas for fishing for sea trout and where and if you require a permit for fishing for sea trout plus the costs for a days fishing.



# EXPERIENCE DRY COMFORT

# WATERPROOF SOCKS, GLOVES AND HATS



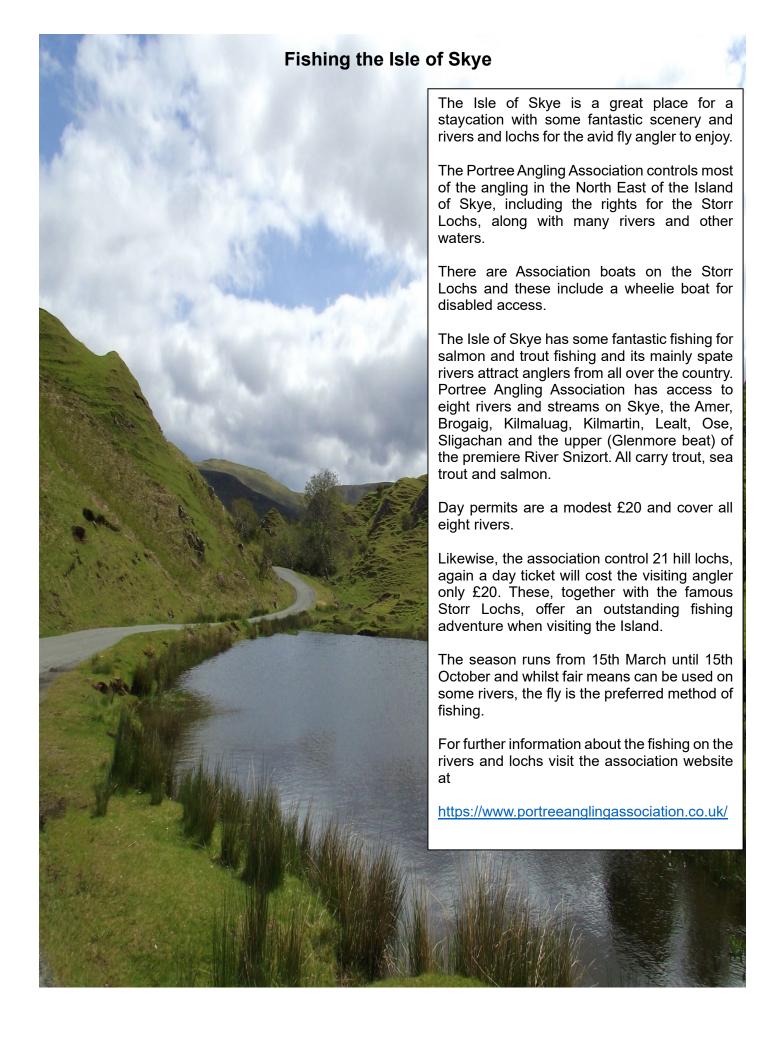


DexShell waterproof accessories allow you to stay dry in all weather conditions, Each product has a waterproof Porelle® membrance and incorporates 4-way stretch to give a comortable fit, whilst also being breathable.











#### Visitor Permit Prices.

Permits must be purchased before fishing any waters.

These are provided at a reasonable cost to visitors: -

Storr Lochs (to include boat hire) for two persons ..... £50 per day / session Storr lochs (bank fishing) ..... £20 per person per day Hill lochs (all included) .... £15 per person per day Rivers (all included) ... £15 per person per day

Fishing permits are required by law for game fishing in Scotland, but a separate rod licence is not necessary.

Boat hire includes 2 life jackets which must be worn.

It is illegal to fish these waters out with the angling season.

The season for trout fishing on all lochs is 15th March to 30thSeptember inclusive. The season for river fishing (all species) is 11th February to 15th October.

The season for rainbow trout, Loch leathan (large Storr) is from the 15th March to 30th November.

Please note there is bank Fishing on Portree Angling Club waters for members only on a Sunday Sunday fishing reserved for members only All salmon must be returned.

Permits are available from:

inside Out The Green Portree Isle of Skye

Tel: (01478) 611663

#### **Kinross Trout Fishery**

A977 (Opposite Kinross Service Station) Kinross, Scotland KY13 0NQ Tel: 07376762057

https://kinrosstroutfishery.co.uk/



I had a wee visit to Kinross Trout Fishery with my 2 brothers Tam and John on Friday 5 August 2022 for a few hours catch and release.

The fishery has 3 fly ponds and one bait pond (Ross Pool). Unfortunately, Dougray Pool was closed due to the water levels being so low and the water being really badly discolored, however the other two pools were just perfect for fishing with the trout rising all over the place.

I started off at the corner of Baxter Pool as you went in. I was using a floating line, 15-foot 10lb fluorocarbon leader with 2 droppers on it, on the point was a size 14 white booby, middle dropper was a size 14 black nymph and top dropper was a size 14 orange glister bodied nymph, being pulled back very slowly.

After my 4<sup>th</sup> cast, I was straight into a cracking rainbow about 3lbs in weight on the orange nymph, a few more casts and I managed another one on the same fly, with quite a few more being caught but losing them, either due to my own fault in not controlling the line or due to using barbless hooks and the fish coming off easily.

After about 1hr 30 min, I decided to move around the pond to the bottom right-hand corner as I could see plenty of fish rising or jumping out of the water.



I still had the same set up on, had quite a few nips and tugs but no joy in catching anything, so changed the flies completely, point fly was a white cormorant and middle dropper was a red buzzer and top dropper a green emerger buzzer, these seemed to work as I caught another couple of trout on the two buzzers.

We decided to call time on the fishing and have some lunch and a wee catch up to discuss our success, Tam only managed one and unfortunately John hadn't landed anything despite having a few nips and tugs at his flies.

After Lunch, we thought we would give Charlie Pool a wee go.

John and Tam managed to land a fish each here but it was my turn to blank out on the pool, so I decided to go back to Baxter Pool and have a wee go again at the top end, more success again landing another 2 on the buzzer.

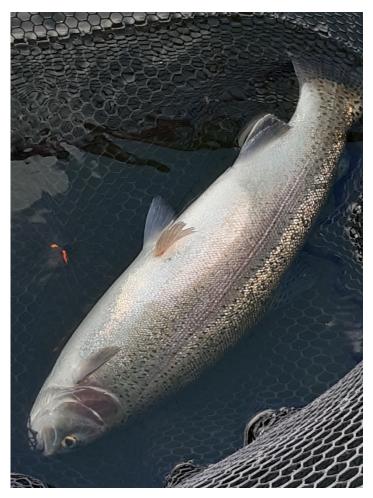
After those two I decided to just put a dry fly on the point and nothing else, it was slow with the fish supping at it or drowning the fly and not coming back for it, I persevered and eventually managed to land a cracking 6lb 8oz beauty of a trout as you can see in the photo on the right.

The staff are really friendly and helpful, plus they have all the knowledge of what's going on at the pools and best methods to use, very handy when you have never fished there before.

Will definitely be going back for another visit.



Wee Brother John





Big Brother Tam

**Grayling Fishing on the River Clyde** 



The River Clyde rises in the border's hills near Moffat and offers exceptional trout and grayling fishing in gin clear water. The ongoing rehabilitation and clean-up of the lower Clyde, which was until recently extremely polluted, has now made it possible for salmon and sea trout to re-establish within the river.

The river flows 106 miles from its source near Beattock Summit to the Firth of Clyde firstly through open countryside in the upper Clyde valley then the populated urban areas south of Glasgow and the city centre. The Clyde begins as the Daer Water which flows north from Daer Reservoir in the Lowther Hills of South Lanarkshire. A number of small streams, the Potrail Water and Clydes Burn run into the Daer above Elvanfoot to become the River Clyde. On its course the river flows past the villages of Crawford, Abington and Libberton where the Medwin Water enters the Clyde from the west at The Meetings.

Below this junction the river flows west, then southwest to Hyndford Bridge. Downstream of the bridge the Douglas Water joins the river which then flows northwest to Bonnington Linn and Corra Linn known as the Falls of Clyde. Below Corra Linn the Stonebyers Falls west of Kirkfieldbank bar the passage of migratory fish to the upper river, however trout and grayling fishing above the falls is excellent.

Downstream of the falls the river flows northwest to be joined by the River Nethan just below Crossford at Nethanfoot. It then flows past the towns of Wishaw and Motherwell where the Avon Water joins the river at Ross House, then follows a circuitous route alongside Strathclyde Loch, past Bothwell and Uddingston enter the Clyde Estuary west of Glasgow. As with all major rivers in Scotland the Clyde is covered by a Protection Order under the Freshwater and Fisheries Act. Because of the pollution problem salmon had been excluded from the Clyde for over two centuries, as a result the Clyde became renowned as a trout and grayling water and the effect of the Protection Order has been to enhance access to fishing as there were no conflicts with salmon interests. Fishing permits are available along the length of the river from Angling Clubs, Post Offices, shops and hotels

There are a number of angling associations that offer season and day ticket fishing for salmon, sea trout, brown trout and grayling.

Upstream of the tidal limits the Mid Clyde A.A. has 8 miles of water/fishing between Rutherglen and Hamilton. Fresh off the tide salmon and sea trout are regularly caught in the area.

The United Clyde Angling Protective Association have approximately 40 miles of water/fishing from Motherwell Bridge to Stonebyres Falls on the lower river and Carstairs to Thankerton and Roberton to the headwaters on the upper river. The Hozier A.C has fishing between Stonebyres and Carstairs.

On the upper river the Lamington and District A.A. has 9 miles of excellent trout water Between Thankerton and Roberton The best technique and nothing more rewarding nor effective a method in cold weather is using the Czech nymph, a modern variation of the more traditional 'upstream nymph' technique of fly fishing. Czech nymphing was originally designed to be used on larger rivers, where an angler would ordinarily be waded in, casting a heavily weighted nymph on a fairly short line a few yards slightly upstream, allowing it to drift down as the fly sinks to a point about 45 degrees downstream. While retrieving line to stay in contact with the nymph, you watch for movement on the end of the fly line that indicates a taking fish, with this almost invariably being seen rather than felt!

Due to the size of the Clyde, in most places this technique can be employed from the bank, and there is no need to wade too deeply in the water, a fly rod of 8 or 9 feet combined with a number 6 or 7 floating line is all that's required. A short cast of about ten yards made either directly or obliquely upstream is the best approach, with the line allowed to drift back towards you while recovering and watching it carefully for any tell-tale pulls against or across the current.

The leader does not have to be any longer than about six feet of 3lb line, the weighted nymph being the point fly and any dropper being tied on about eighteen inches higher up. Depending on the weight of the nymph used, the point fly will cause the line to sink in proportion to the strength of the current. A stronger current will demand a heavier nymph, as grayling are nearly always found near the bottom, too a light a fly will cause the flies to drift ineffectively over their heads. On the other hand, too heavy a nymph in a light a current will cause the point fly to sink too quickly. Like with all good fly-fishing methods, correct balance of flies and line is the key!

While Czech nymphs and various heavily weighted shrimp patterns are often favoured for grayling fishing in winter, in lighter flows traditional weighted patterns like the GBHE and Pheasant Tail can be just as effective, if not more so.

Remember to always make your cast upstream and not across the river as the pressure of the rod and current will cause the flies to rise up in the water and past the fish. Remember that the grayling are mostly always bottom feeders so don't fish your flies too high in the water.

As with most fishing flies, Polish woven nymphs and the angling techniques used to fish them evolved to solve certain problems, not the least of which was the fact that these were immensely popular in match fishing competitions where no weight was allowed on the leader. Combine the no-split-shot rule and the swift currents common in that area of Europe, the anglers devised a way to get their flies down to the fish quickly and effectively. Thus - Polish nymphing and Polish woven nymphs.

As with any style, change the materials to suit your needs. Some authentic (i.e., tied in the Czech Republic) nymphs sport such diverse materials as latex taken from surgical gloves, eel skin, and even sausage casings. Once again, we see where fly tiers are an inventive, if odd, bunch of folks. Don't believe me? Check out some of the cat gut nymphs on the web.

Given that, all Czech nymphs adhere to a few simple principles:

They are heavy

They are slim

They sport some sort of shellback, usually darker in colour than the abdomen

They are tied on a curved "grub" style hook

Grayling flies are most famously based along the Red Tag family, a red wool tail, peacock herl body and a ginger hackle. The red tag being a fly from Worcestershire made famous by a well-known Yorkshire angler Walbran. Variants having various coloured tags or hackles.

Lady Grayling will take many flies as does the Trout. Having a low mouth, they are mainly bottom feeders though can give great sport on the dry fly. Now many fishers use heavy weighted flies such as bugs or shrimps, though your Clyde flies will catch equally as well, Typical Clyde flies:- Grayling Witch; Red Rag; Terry's Terror; Woven Nymph; Honey Dun Bumble; Grayling Steel Blue; Gold Head Nymph; Black Magic; Claret Shrimp and Gold Head Hares Era Shrimp.



#### **Burnhouse Lochan 25th Anniversary Competition**



It's been 2 years since Maisy May Anderson took over the reins of Burnhouse Lochan Fishery, and to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fishery being open she has decided to hold a competition.

For the 22 anglers including myself that took part in the first qualifying round of the 2022 Burnhouse Trophy on Sunday 14 August, it was a beautiful day, perfect for sunbathing and the half time lunch that Maisy May and her staff laid on for the competitors (you would have thought she was feeding the 5000 with the size and quality of the spread laid out for us) but it wasn't so ideal for the fishing.

The start of the day was just perfect with a slight mist and cool breeze, with the fish rising all over the fishery. However, as the morning went on the sun broke through and the temperature rose to 27.5 deg and even though there was a good breeze, it wasn't cooling you down. I even had to take a rest after lunch to rehydrate myself (it was only Oasis fruit drinks, but I wish it had been a nice cool pint of beer as the Oasis was too bloody warm on the throat).

The anglers had to work incredibly hard to try to secure a place in the final, as the fish eventually went down deep and lethargic due to the sun beating down and the surface of the water heating up. Despite the many pulls and nips and tugs, I just managed to net three fish, one on a Dennis the Menace buzzer and two on dry flies.

Top flies on the day were: - beetles, buzzers, apps and diawl bachs.

Other successful flies were fabs, yellow dancers, black & green lures, snatchers, hare's ears, nymphs, eggs, mop flies, snakes and various dries.

Out of the 22 competitors in the first heat the top 12 qualifiers were: -

1st - COLIN SHARPE - 7 fish - First fish 11.40

2nd - SCOTT MUDIE - 6 fish - First fish 9.01

3rd - MARK GRAY - 6 fish - First fish 9.06

4th - STUART BELL - 5 fish - First fish 10.45

5th – RORY STEWART – 4 fish – First fish 9.16

6th – NATHAN HORNER – 4 fish – First fish 9.20

7th – JODI MCFARLANE – 3 fish – First fish 9.30

8th –ROBIN LAMBERT – 3 fish – First fish 10.02

9th –DARREN MCPHERSON – 3 fish – First fish 10.10

10th - ROBERT PATON - 3 fish - First fish 10.40

11th - COLIN SPENCE - 3 fish - First fish 11.30

12th - ROBERT BOYLE - 2 fish - First fish 9.14

The successful top 12 in the second heat held on Sunday 18 September to qualify for the final on Sunday 9 October were: -

1st – WILLIE TURNER 10 fish including a big tiger.

2<sup>nd</sup> - ALAN SMITH 8 fish.

3<sup>rd</sup> – AARON KIRKWOOD 8 fish.

4th - GRAHAM BAIRD 6 fish.

5<sup>th</sup> - MICHAEL MCKENNA 6 fish.

6<sup>th</sup> - BRIAN MCCLUCKIE 6 fish.

7th - BRUCE DYSART 5 fish.

8th - GEORGE MURDOCH 5 fish.

9<sup>th</sup> - JIM ANDERSON 4 fish, including a big Tiger and a big brown.

10th - GREG HOWE 4 fish, including a big tiger.

11th - CHRIS MELVILLE 4 fish, including a big tiger.

12th - BOAB MC 4 fish.

Final results and full 25-year story in the January issue of the magazine.

# **Fly Tying Time**

#### **Hares Ear Nymph**



The hares ear nymph is a great point fly for getting your flies deeper down in the water due to the lead used under the thorax.

Bring your flies back in ether a short jerking movement with a pause in between to allow the flies to go up and down the water column, or a slow figure of eight retrieve.

You can use various colours of hare's ear fur to make the fly, this one is in an olive colour.

**Hook:** sizes 10 to 18 **Thread:** 8/0 tan or brown **Lead:** 5 – 8 wraps

Tail: Guard hair from hare's mask or partridge hackle

**Rib:** Fine oval gold tinsel **Body**: Hare's mask dubbing **Thorax:** Hare's mask dubbing

Wing case: Brown mottled turkey quill

Place hook in vice and place 5 - 8 wraps of lead in thorax area. Don't get too close to the hook eye.

Begin thread behind hook eye and cover lead, ending thread at barb.

If you have a Hare's Ear Mask, pull a few fibres of guard hair off. Otherwise tie in about 5 fibres from a partridge hackle.

Tie in fine oval gold tinsel at tail.

Attach Hare's Ear dubbing to thread and wind forward to 1/3 mark of hook. (This should be about where the lead begins).

Wind rib forward and end at thorax.

Tie in wing case.

Dub more Hare's Ear to form chunky thorax. End thread just behind hook eye.

Pull wing case over thorax and tie down.

Whip finish.

Finally, brush out a few fibres at thorax to simulate nymph legs.

# All tackle reviews are impartial and honest reviews undertaken by the editor. If you want an honest and frank review of your fly-fishing-tackle please email me at editor.scottishflyfisher@gmail.com



Well, it's getting near that time of year when we have to start thinking about getting all wrapped up to go out fishing during the winter months.

However, most people get their top and bottom half all wrapped up to keep warm and forget about their poor feet. You can be on your feet for hours and they can get wet and cold. But you should get a pair of thermal socks to keep your feet nice and warm.

I managed to get my hands on a pair of the DexShell Thermlite socks, and they are brilliant socks to wear inside your boots.

The Thermlite Socks are waterproof socks designed for hiking and other outdoor activities like fly fishing in cold conditions. They have a Porelle membrane for waterproof breathable performance and a lightweight merino wool inner for great moisture management and warmth. The Thermlite Socks are one of the most popular socks in the DexShell range as they are great for just about any cold weather activity.

**UK Sizing:** 

S: 3-5 | M: 6-8 | L: 9-11 | XL: 12-14

If you're between sizes, I would recommend that you go for the larger size.

You can get the socks directly from <a href="https://outdoor247.co.uk/">https://outdoor247.co.uk/</a> and at only £30 a pair they are well worth the money to ensure your feet are comfortable and warm all day.



If you're looking for a great leader, then look no further than the Berkley Flouroshield, it's a copolymer leader covered in fluorocarbon.

The line has the stretch of copolymer and the invisibility of fluorocarbon, ideal for when the fish hit your leader hard as it has that wee bit extra stretch to cushion the blow.

Fluorocarbon infused Co-polymer Nearly invisible under water Abrasion resistance comparable to fluorocarbon

You can get the leader from Amazon for the great price of £6.99 for 300 yards. Available from 4lb up to 30lb.

I've been using the 10lb breaking strain and found it ideal for all my fishing from buzzers up to large lures. Great turn over and lands and lays perfectly on the water, it's also a lot less stiff than fluorocarbon, great when you are using a large dry fly on the point and buzzers on the droppers washing line style.

#### **Staycation Time**



Carriber Cottages Bowden Springs Fishery Carriber Reservoir Linlithgow West Lothian EH49 6QE

Telephone: 01506 847269 /07824 332368

Email:

http://bowdensprings.co.uk/home.htm

There are 2 reservoirs – upper and lower which are separated by an earth dam. The maximum depth of both basins is about 9 feet. Both basins are spring fed, draining from the beautiful hills around Torphichen to the south.

The fishery is one of the few local fisheries that allow the fishing for trout with bait as well as fly.

The upper reservoir, Bowden Loch, is about 2 acres in area, is fly only, and can be fished with both imitative and lure patterns. The loch is well stocked with blue, brown & rainbow trout.

The lower reservoir, Carriber Loch, covers an area of about 5 acres and has a paved path that surrounds part of the loch. You can take your pick from a number of casting platforms which are dotted strategically around the loch edge.

There are also a limited number of boats available to fly fishers. The loch is regularly stocked with brown, blue and rainbow trout. There is no Catch and Release available on Carribber Loch.

At the South end of the lochs, you will see two spring fed streams entering at each corner. These are often popular spots for fish to feed on items being washed into the loch from the streams. However, fish also regularly patrol the edge of the loch, and you can often see them breaking the surface of the water on warmer days when there are plenty of hatching nymphs or buzzers about.

Bowden also has an onsite tackle shop where you can get all your angling goods and some tasty snacks for yourself.

The Fishery offers 3 x 3-bedroom cottages which can sleep up to 6 people and which can be rented as part of a fishing















# **Fish of The Week Competition**

At Fishing Megastore, we are passionate about fishing, and we are always interested in what our customers are getting up to. We want to know what you are catching, and we'd love to see a picture of you and your catch.



For your chance to win £150 worth of <u>Daiwa Fishing Gear</u>, simply send us a photograph of you and your catch with a little description. You can also enter in store - just ask a member of staff for assistance. The winner will be chosen by a panel of judges in our Glasgow store and will feature in the Scottish Daily Record newspaper on the Friday of each week. The winner will be announced on our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> social media pages.

To enter online click **HERE** 

# **Classifieds**

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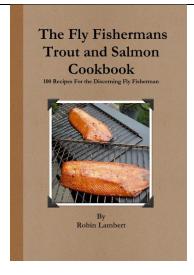
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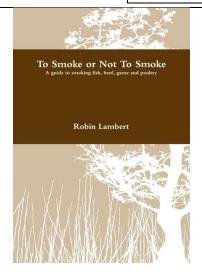
Available from The Scottish Flyfisher





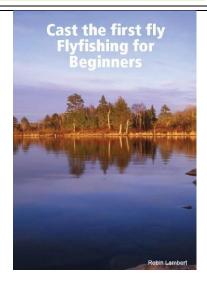
100 delicious trout and salmon recipes for the discerning fly fisherman/woman

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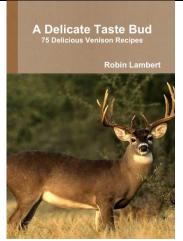
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#### **Fishing Reports**

#### **Lochter Report -Autumn Boost at Lochter**

Down Lochter way the onset of Autumn has certainly seemed to jump-start our fish into action to feed up for the long dark cold Winter predicted to be ahead of us. This was reflected in the Returns book where many anglers had seen increases in their catch rate from their previous norms and there was very good feedback about the fighting ability of our trout and also about varied range of weights we stock to, so all very positive stuff.

With the water cooling and clearing considerably it seems that lures are proving very effective and those in the 20 or plus returns category seemed to be using them in the main. Such anglers were Declan McFarlane who used the blob or a mixture of lures, Kevin McDonnell stuck with either the black and green nomad or white cormorant, Ian Fong used lures or buzzers, Mike McLennan used black beetles, Steve Prince used damsels or the WSW lure, C Collie used a yellow and black lure, J Eddie used a black and green flexi cat, Paul Massie changed between buzzers, blobs and dry's, Steve MacGowan used ok dokay's, cormorants and the Kate McLaren, Eric Duthie changed between dry flies and a black beetle and Steven Craig used a mixture of lures.

Other returns were Graham Gauld with 18 fish on buzzers or crunchers and also on this number were Forbes Gallagher on nymphs and Albert Cowie on lures and buzzers. L Greenlees had 17 fish on the yellow dancer, Simon Ruddiman had 14 fish on the nomad lure, Brian Ross stuck with his dry fly and buzzer combination for 13 fish and on 12 fish were lan Cameron using a black lure, Bill Coull on a blue damsel, Gary Findlay on a damsel and Nick Begg on a cat's whisker.

A reminder that this is the last week when evening sessions are available at the Fishery and as from Monday 3rdOctober we will be operating our Autumn hours of 8am – 5pm, so still 9 hours of fishing fun.

Tight lines wherever you fish

#### Linlithgow Loch Catch Report - 05/09/2022 - 11/09/2022

There were 24 boats out in the past week with 84 rods, 25 fish were kept, weighing 77 lbs, and 33 fish were returned. Fish were taking Ally McCoist, Buzzers, Blobs, Cormorants, Fabs, Cat Boobies and Snake patterns.

The best catches during the week were by Mr Graham returning 4 fish and Ian Dobbie who returned 8 fish on buzzers. Most anglers caught 1 – 2 trout.

The weekend saw Rusty Nails AC keeping 11 fish to the net weighing 34 lbs 4 oz, however, they dropped quite a few. Ian was out again on Sunday fishing with Craig Cowan and returned 7 fish – see photo. Mr Brownlie and Mr Telford sharing a boat returned 4 good-sized rainbows.

Comments by anglers were still about connecting with fish but dropping fish and being snapped.

We continue to stock regularly as seen on our Facebook page

Boats are available on most days for a full day or 4-hour sessions but to avoid disappointment please call 01506 671753 or book online in advance.

#### Burnhouse Lochan Weekly Report. Week ending Sunday 25 September 2022

With the return of the warm sunny weather the fishing slowed a little, the best sport coming on Friday and Sunday when we had overcast conditions and a good ripple on the water. Sunday seen a lot of the larger predatory fish make the nets however a lot more were lost, the fish are hitting and fighting incredibly hard, and we are witnessing more double hook ups as the fish begin to feed heavily in preparation for the winter months when their metabolism slows, however line strength is letting a lot of the anglers down. We recommend using 8lb+ throughout the year but especially at this time of the year when the takes are more aggressive, and the fish are fighting harder than before.

**Fish of the week** – The top spot goes to AARON KIRKWOOD with tiger weighing 7.75lb! Well Done, Aaron! A few double figure rainbows were reported, however without being witnessed we cannot confirm. Remember we are a trout master's water, so get those fish weighed and witnessed.

Flies of the week – The top 3 flies were BUZZERS, OLIVE EMERGERS, and DAMSELS.

Other successful flies were klinkhammers, cdcs, shipmans, ants, yellow owls, polyball buzzers, big hairy, top hats, daddies, Griffiths gnat, double humpy, sedgehog, hoppers, smokers, floating fry, spiders, beetles, wickhams fancy, snatchers, crunchers, hares ears, pheasant tailed nymphs, black pennell, diawl bachs, Kate McLaren, cormorants, muddlers, minkies, blobs, fabs, apps, fluff cats, eggs, snakes, Ally McCoist, squirmies, mop flies, yellow dancers, shimmies, humongous, yellow dancers, Mrs Simpson, ace of spades, pink lures and an orange nomad.

# Find a Fishery - Quick Links

# A full listing of all trout fisheries can be found on the parent website

Alandale Tarn Fishery Gavieside, West Calder, West Lothian. Scotland. EH55 8PT. Tel:01506 873073 allandaletarnfisheries@gmail.com	Bangour Trout Fishery Bangour Reservoir Near Dechmont West Lothian EH52 6GU Tel:01506 811 335 Mobile: 07711384308 info@bangourtroutfishery.com Burns Trout Fishery	Bowden Springs Carribber Reservoir Linlithgow West Lothian EH49 6QE Tel: 01506 847269 /07824 332368 enquiries@bowdensprings.co.uk
Burnhouse Fishery Burnhouse Farm Bonnybridge, FK4 2HH Tel: May Donaldson on 07889603160 info@burnhouse-fishery.co.uk	Tarbolton Loch,  KA5 5LY  Tel: 07527405715	Carron Valley Fishery Fishing Lodge, Carron Valley, nr Denny, Stir- lingshire FK6 5JL Tel: 01324 823698 fishing@carronvalley.com
Frandy Fishery Glendevon, Dollar, FK14 7JZ Tel: 01259 781352 info@frandyfishery.com	Forbes of Kingennie Forbes of Kingennie Kingennie Broughty Ferry Dundee DD5 3RD Tel: 01382 350777 fishing@forbesofkingennie.com	Golden Loch Berryhill Farm, Newburgh, Cupar, Fife <u>KY14 6HZ</u> Tel: 01337 840355
Inver awe Fishery Inverawe Fisheries & Country Park, Taynuilt, Argyll PA35 1HU Tel: 01866 822 808 (Easter – December) or 01866 822 777 (January – Easter) shop@iverawe.co.uk	Kinross Trout Fishery Hetheryford Kinross KY13 0NQ Tel: 01577 864212 Mobile: 07376762057 Email: huntersofkinrossfishery@hotmail.com	Lake of Menteith Lake of Menteith Fisheries, Port of Menteith, FK8 3RA. Bookings Tel: 01877 385664 booking@menteith-fisheries.co.uk
Ledyatt Loch Ledyatt Loch Trout Fishery Ledyatt Loch Coupar Angus Road Lundie By Dundee DD2 5PD Tel: 07530 592724 or 07891 896848 ledyatt@btinternet.com	Linlithgow Loch 212A High Street (at Loch Side) Lilithgow EH49 7ES 01506 671753 linlithgowlochlodge@hotmail.com	Loch Fad Fishery Loch Fad Isle of Bute PA20 9PA Tel: 01700 504871 Mob: 07712 534511 info@lochfad.co.uk
Lochmill Fishery Antermony Road, Glasgow, G66 8AD, Glasgow City 0141 776 1903 or 07803 171402 ted@lochmillfishery.co.uk	Markle Fisheries Markle Fisheries, Markle, East Linton, East Lothian. EH40 3EB Tel: 01620 861213 jon@marklefisheries.co.uk	Mill of Kellas Trout Fishery Mill of Kellas Kellas Elgin IV30 8TS Tel: 01343 890777 Email: info@kellasestate.com
New Haylie Fishery The Haylie Brae, Dalry Road, Largs KA30 8JA Tel: 01475 676 005	Newmill Trout Fishery Newmill Fishing Ltd. Cleghorn Lanark South Lanarkshire ML11 7SL Tel: 01555870730	Orchill Loch Trout Fishery South Lodge, Orchill, Braco, Dunblane, FK15 9LF Tel: 01764 682287
Rothiemurchus Etate Rothiemurchus By Aviemore Inverness-shire PH22 1QH Tel: 01479812345	Stoneyfield Loch Fishery Stoneyfield House Newmore Invergordon IV18 0PG Tel: 01349 852632	Swanswater Fishery Sauchieburn, Stirling FK7 9QB Tel: 01786 814805 swanswater@aol.com
Whinney Loch Fishery Whinney Farm, West Loch Road, Coldingham, Berwickshire, TD14 5QE Tel: 01890 771838 huskie@spinfish.co.uk	Woodburn Fishery Antemony Road Milton of Campsie Glasgow G66 8AB Tel: 01360 313086 Mbl: 078 8875 8709	