

RADAS News July 2025



The new fishing lakes.

Message from the Chairman

Greetings to all our members and friends!

Thanks to everyone who has purchased a membership plan for 25/26. We have a great club and we are very lucky to be able to fish the beautiful River Swale.

The trout season started well and in the words of one of our top anglers “The river is fishing it’s socks off”.

I hope you enjoy our new waters. Keep the catch returns coming in and please try and help out in whatever way you can.

Have a great season.
Tight lines!
Ron



Catch Returns

Catch returns help us to understand:

- What species are in the river.
- Provides an indication of fish numbers.
- Shows which beats are the most productive.
- Tells us where our members are fishing and how often the beats are used.
- Helps us to evaluate the fishing, monitor changes and is useful when planning fish stocking or talking to riparian owners and external agencies.
- It is also **very important** if the society has to prepare a claim for compensation after a pollution incident because it provides evidence of our loss.

If you do nothing else for the club please ensure you submit a catch return every time you fish!

We are continuing with our catch return draws.
The latest winner is **Bill Ankers** who receives £10 off his membership.

Well done Bill!

Overview of the fishing

The catch returns show that the our club waters hold an abundance of Trout and Grayling. Trout of 3 – 5 lbs are regularly caught. The returns also confirm that trout are the only species upstream of the Falls. Chub are present everywhere below the Falls including many up to 5lbs. In November 250 Chub were introduced at the Batts to supplement the existing stock. Pike have been caught as far up as Easby although the best pike fishing seems to be at Great Langton. We are at the upper limit for Barbel but a few were caught at the Batts and at Easby whilst the biggest was early on in the season at Great Langton. Perch have been reported at Catterick bridge but we have no photographic evidence to verify this. Large numbers of Dace were present at Catterick Bridge in the summer months.

Species	Number	Approx % of Total Catch
Trout	869	35.1
Grayling	1155	46.1
Chub	197	8
Dace	231	9.3
Barbel	5	0.2
Pike	5	0.2
Perch	7	0.3
Gudgeon	4	0.2
Salmon (parr)	2	0.1
Total fish caught and safely returned: 2475		

Here are the figures for 24/25.

Venue	Visits	No. of Fish	Average per Visit
<u>Oxque Waters</u>	41	42	1.02
Marske Waters	81	106	1.31
Round Howe	41	69	1.68
Green Bridge to Falls	3	3	1.0
Falls / <u>Batts</u>	27	227	8.41
Station Bend to Fence End	47	279	5.94
Easby Waters	81	262	3.23
Iron Banks Wood	12	27	2.25
Red House Farm / D'Arcy <u>Hildyard</u>	142	540	3.80
Broken Brae	6	13	2.17
Brompton on Swale	99	392	3.96
Catterick Bridge	15	166	11.1
Great Langton	138	349	2.53

Thanks to Steve Plumb for collating the data.



Winner of best pike photo was **James Buff** who receives £10 off his membership.
Well done James!

Anglers Against Litter

Every year we carry out two litter picking events in support of the Angling Trust “Anglers Against Litter” campaign. Thanks to all who turned out to help at the litter pick on Sunday 6th April (which also coincided with the Keep Britain Tidy campaign).



Our next litter pick is on Saturday 20th

September (which also coincides with “World Clean Up Day”)

Details will be published but normally we meet at Station Yard, 9 am.

Please join us if you can.

Bank Works / Environmental

The following work has been carried out under the excellent leadership of William Moody:

- Paths cleared and access improved at Great Langton.
- Willow coppicing completed on Skeeby Beck.
- Several natural barriers on the beck have been opened up to allow fish passage.
- In response to a request from YDRT a survey of the entire beck from Brompton to Dalton has been carried out by William which identified three additional barriers to fish migration.
- Ranunculus planting has taken place to enhance the in stream habitat.
- Bird nesting boxes (made by William) have been put up along the river.

William has been working closely with our partners the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust who have helped us with the improvements on Skeeby Beck.

Thanks to all of our members who have turned out to support these important initiatives.

Invasive Non Native Species (INNS)

Last summer we began tackling the Himalayan Balsam at Great Langton. As previously reported, Steve McCormack secured funding to purchase brush cutting equipment, ppe and training which enabled us to carry out this work.

Steve recently secured additional funding enabling us to purchase training and equipment enabling us to begin tackling the Japanese Knotweed.

Four members have now attained the LANTRA qualification and the first phase of Japanese Knotweed treatment has been completed at Great Langton.



A very big thank you to the volunteer spraying team consisting of William (planner and organiser), Steve, Len and Paul and the assistants Jerry, Richard and Tim who carried out the work at Great Langton.

A great job well done in very hot conditions!

William Moody says “Thank you to everybody who lugged equipment about, filled buckets, sweated in coveralls, struggled through

vegetation. You made the job a lot easier and efficient overall.”

We are extremely grateful to William for organising this work and everyone involved who came along to help.



Japanese Knot Weed



Results of the treatment can be seen already.

There are other RADAS beats to tackle over the months and years ahead. It is a massive undertaking but we have made a start.

We need volunteers to help with our citizen science work and INNS control. Contact Allan Harder to get register your interest.

ALERT!



Look out for **Giant Hogweed**. If seen report immediately.

Himalayan Balsam Campaign

We will be continuing our campaign to bring the Himalayan Balsam under control to protect our native flora, look after the river banks and improve access for anglers.

Days of activity have been marked in our events calendar and will be led by our trained members. For ease of reference these will be 0900 at Great Langton and are:

- July 20th Sunday
- July 21st Monday
- July 27th Sunday
- July 28th Monday
- August 3rd Sunday
- August 4th Monday

We need volunteers to help progress this important work, this can be for the full day or just for a few hours.

If you can assist in these days or part of, please contact Allan Harder so arrangements can be made.

Personal Protective Equipment will be provided but those attending are asked to bring their own

food, drink in anticipation of a hot day, sun/hat protection, and suitable footwear for working on rough ground.

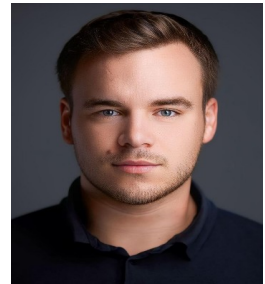
As part of the risk assessment for this, which will be detailed on the day, please ensure your emergency contact details on Clubmate are up to date, and these will be collated again on the day.

Membership ID Photos

Please ensure that you have a passport style photo on your profile.

We still have a few people with photos of themselves holding fish, or with family, friends or pets etc.

If it applies to you please send Kev Woodcock a proper ID photo and he will upload it for you. This is a safety requirement.



Skeeby Beck Update

Skeeby Beck remains closed to fishing until further notice. We are monitoring the recovery and fishing will resume once fish have started to repopulate the beck.

As far as we know the EA investigation into the cause of the pollution incident which occurred in April 2023 is ongoing. We have no further information at this time.

Exchange Tickets

We have a new exchange ticket with **Ferryhill And District Angling Club**.

Tickets can be booked on the RADAS website.
<https://richmondangling.org.uk/beat-maps>

Find out more about FDAC here:



<https://www.ferryhillanddistrictanglingclub.com>

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Please note that we are not allowed to fish on the FDAC waters at Bellingham or on the clubs two ponds.

Finance



Jamie Shewan our Treasurer reports that the club's finances are in good shape. Jamie continues to balance an extremely busy and demanding career with being a Dad and running our accounts. I don't know how he does but it is good to know that our money is in safe hands. Thank you Jamie!

Volunteer Bailiff Service



We currently have six Volunteer Bailiffs in the club. We need more members to sign up.

Members of the Volunteer Bailiff Service provide eyes and ears on the ground for the police and the EA. Training is online and can be done at your own pace. When you have completed the training you can participate in regular webinars covering a wide range of angling related topics.

You will also make some good contacts as the VBS is a national organisation.

Anyone who qualifies as a VB automatically becomes a club bailiff.

There is no obligation to go out on regular patrols. You can combine your bailiff activities with dog walks or fishing trips to suit yourself.

Volunteer Bailiffs are provided with a uniform and ID card. Having a visible presence on the river combined with signage helps to deter poachers.

If you would like to become a VB / club bailiff please contact Kev Woodcock or Allan Harder.

For more information:

<https://anglingtrust.net/freshwater-projects/voluntary-bailiff-service/>

Dealing with Poachers

We have had a number of reports of poachers recently. It is everyone's responsibility to report poachers.

There is a set procedure which is explained on the "Report" page of our website:

INCIDENT REPORTING

Action to be taken if you see poachers, pollution, predators, littering, damage to the environment or wildlife crime

- Crime in progress call 999 for police.
- Other emergency call 999 for police, fire or ambulance.
- If pollution / environmental call the EA incident line 0800 807060.
- Then call the secretary on 07742 300881.
- Avoid confrontation.
- Never put yourself at risk.
- Take photos if you can do so safely.

Finally it is important that you submit the form below.

<https://cutt.cx/pCa8o>

Summary

You ring the police first, 999, crime in progress. Get an incident number. Then ring the secretary to let him know what's happened. Finally complete the report form so that we have all of the details on record.

It is your job as the witness at the scene to ring the police and then submit a report via the website to inform the committee.

If it's not written down it didn't happen!

Social Media



Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms are great for sharing information, photos, experiences, to promote the club and the sport of angling. Members are encouraged to use it in a positive way. Please think carefully before posting on SM. Publicly discussing club business or policies, complaining about the club, other members or any of the organisations we work with is not good. Beware of writing things that may bring the society into disrepute, which are disrespectful or that might cause offence to others.

Facebook is a great way to share experiences, tips and advice:

This lovely, very hard fighting and jumping trout was a solid 20in and one of the grayling was an impressive 16in. All caught on a suspended caddis nymph using a New Zealand wool indicator. Very few trout rising, although lots of small grayling. Clouds of Grannom coming off the water.

Great day above Richmond today on the dries. Not easy but really rewarding catching them on real delicate presentations

Had this lovely fish on a different club on Thursday around the Brompton area. I joined RADAS yesterday, looking forward to this season and meeting the fellow members 🐟

Please use Social Media sensibly.





River Pollution

We have put signs up at popular fishing locations warning anglers about the dangers associated with river pollution and water borne diseases. Please follow the advice:

Do not put your fingers in your mouth if they have been in the water. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before handling food when out fishing.

Read the Angling Trust advisory leaflet. It is on our website:

<https://richmondangling.org.uk/safety>

ANGLERS



Health Warning : River Pollution

1. Never put wet lines or terminal tackle from the water into your mouth.
2. Wash hands with soap and water, or use sanitizer before eating and after fishing.
3. Cover cuts and grazes with waterproof plasters before fishing.
4. Clean and cover any wounds immediately.
5. If you fall in, keep your mouth closed and avoid swallowing water.
6. Shower as soon as you get home if exposed to potentially infected water.

Vomiting and diarrhoea are common symptoms of water borne diseases but ear, respiratory and eye problems can occur. If you experience any of these after fishing seek medical advice immediately.

Stay Safe, Protect Your Health

RICHMOND AND DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY
richmondangling.org.uk/safety

Awards 25/26

We will continue to recognise and reward members who give up their time to help the club.

There are three types of award.

Top Team

Given to people who help out by promoting the club, helping other members, organising or helping at events etc.

River Champion

For those who regularly help out in practical ways carrying out environmental work or improvements on the river.

Trailblazer

A special award for people who come up with good ideas which the club adopts or makes an initiative which benefits the club and or members.

Recipients receive a guest ticket to bring a friend fishing for FREE. They are also first to be asked if there any special opportunities arise.

Awards are at the discretion of the chairman but any member can nominate someone for an award.

Become An Angling Coach

We would like four new angling coaches to help us plan and run two Get Fishing events every year. If you would you like to train as an angling coach and be part of our coaching team contact Kev Woodcock our membership secretary to find out more.

Citizen Science

THANK YOU to our fantastic River Fly Monitoring Team, Allan Harder, Steve McCormack, Joe James, Ronnie Kane and Steve Plumb. Also Will Smith and Ian Bosher for the doing the monthly water quality testing.



Ronnie Kane (L) and Steve Plumb (R) river fly monitoring

Meet Up For A Pint

We meet on the last Friday of the month (except August and December) at the Buck on Newbiggin, Richmond at 7 pm. Make friends and talk fishing. All are welcome.



D'Arcy Hildyard Waters

In May the society took up the fishing rights to new waters on the south bank of the Swale from the Bailey Bridge at Brompton to the river bank opposite Red House Farm. This is known as the D'Arcy Hildyard waters. It is **members only** water and not available to day permit holders.

Included in the new lease are two fishing lakes. No decision will be made on stocking until we have established what fish reside there already. We need members to provide data to so that we can make informed decisions.

To help us investigate the lakes please contact committee member Pat Bush to let her know you want to be involved.

Before fishing you must book online. We then require details of fish caught. A catch return has been set up for this.

Contact Pat: pat.bush0201@btinternet.com

<https://richmondangling.org.uk/darcy-hildyard-lakes>



These little chaps and more were caught in the lakes showing that there is a healthy population of perch. Fish have been observed rising so they are there!

Members Breakfast & Tour of the Waters



A group of members met up on the 23rd March for breakfast at the Morro Lounge followed by a whistle stop tour of the waters. We had some very positive feedback and thank you to all who came along.

A video of the tour can be found here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7djYIZdln_I

Fly Fishing Meet Up

Well done to Danny Cunningham for organising the fly fishing get together which took place on the 13th April. Everyone who turned up enjoyed themselves. New friendships were forged and everyone picked up some useful tips. Danny is already planning another meet up later in the season.



Streamer And Distance Fishing Masterclass

Ten club members attended the above workshop with Fred Bainbridge and had a fantastic day. Fred's sessions are always enjoyable and rewarding.

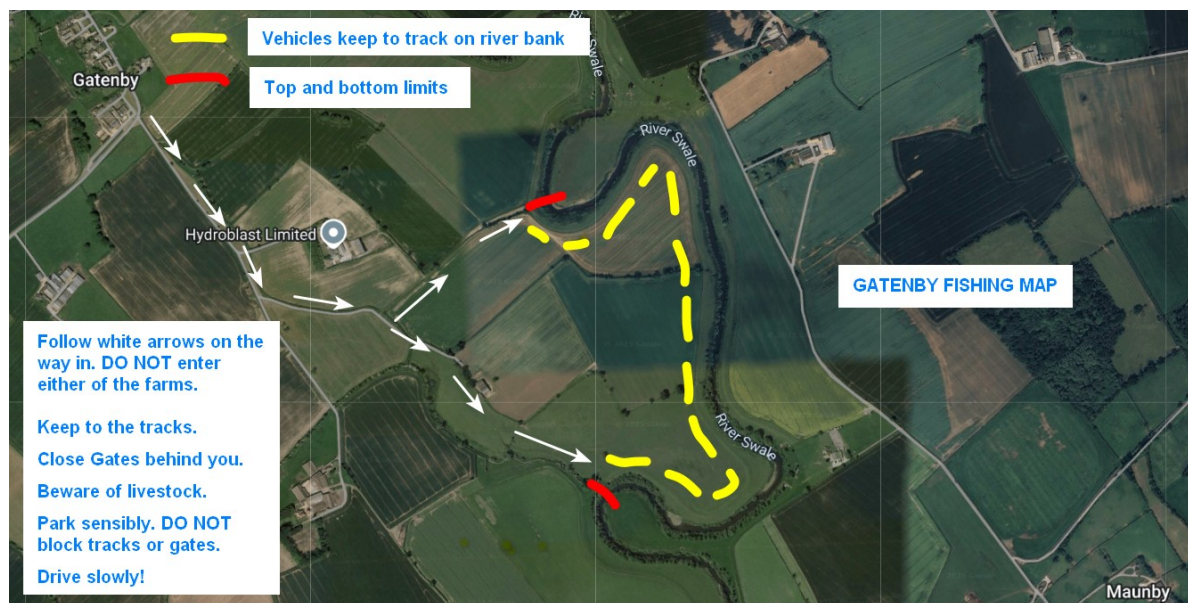


Early Season Fly Fishing Tactics

Fourteen members took part in Stuart Wardle's excellent workshop which provided some great tips and advice on how to be more successful when fly fishing at the start of the season. Everyone had a great time.



Gatenby Beat



The club has taken out a lease on some new water at Gatenby. There is just over a mile of single bank fishing with good vehicle access.

This beat has not been fished for many years and has the potential to be great coarse fishing water for chub, barbel and in the winter months, pike.

There are no public footpaths and access is through locked gates.

Fishing will be reserved for members only, no day permits. An email will be sent out with more information.



Help us build a better club!

We would like to find a few more people to join the committee.

If you:

- Have good ideas
- Can work in harmony with others
- Have a positive outlook
- Are interested in helping us to make improvements

We would like to hear from you.

Please contact Allan Harder, Club Sec for more information.



Nice chub caught recently.



Well done junior member Jack Blakey who is becoming an expert at catching barbel. They are there!



Swale barbel (RADAS waters)

Coming Soon...

Rewards Day

Sun 7th Sept 2025 9.00 AM – 5 PM

We are putting on a special day for members who have helped out since the start of the season. Anyone who has turned up to assist with bank works, Japanese Knotweed control, Himalayan Balsam clearing or in any other practical way will be welcome to take part.

The event will be at Parklands Fishing Lakes near Northallerton. This venue offers excellent coarse fishing with a very well stocked lake. There is a car park, toilet facilities and a cafe.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To book a place go here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/richmondanddistrictanglingsociety/1785699>

TREE PLANTING

We need volunteers to assist William with tree planting in the Autumn. If you can help please contact Allan Harder for details.



Winter Grayling Masterclass

Sat 25th Oct 2025 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Euronymphing expert and former England "All Rivers Champion", Fred Bainbridge will be running a masterclass for a group of up to twelve anglers. This will take place on RADAS waters at St Giles Farm. Arrive 9.30 am. Course runs from 10 am until 4 pm. The cost will be £30 per person. Bring a packed lunch.

Book here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/richmondanddistrictanglingsociety/1721326>

