

RADAS News - Autumn 2026

Richmond and District Angling Society

BIG NEWS - GATENBY OPENS 1st OCTOBER!

From 1st October, the Gatenby Beat will be OPEN TO ALL RADAS MEMBERS.

This gives members just over a mile of single-bank River Swale fishing with good vehicle access and the chance of chub, barbel, grayling and winter pike.

Gatenby is MEMBERS ONLY - no day permits. Access is through locked gates. The padlock combination is on the Members Page of your Membermojo account; log in using your email address.

[Full Gatenby information, access details and beat map](#)

Please read the access information carefully and secure all gates behind you. Enjoy the new water - and don't forget those catch returns!



A fine Gatenby grayling.

Message from the Chairman

It has been a difficult summer. Heatwaves and exceptionally low water have resulted in extremely poor conditions and many anglers have not been out. It has also been too hot for some essential bank work. Hopefully we can get some decent fishing over the autumn and winter months. I am particularly pleased to see chub being caught in all sizes, from small chublets to impressive adult specimens - an encouraging sign that they are spawning and thriving. It is also good to see barbel being caught in the upper reaches of our waters.

Firstly - keep those catch returns coming. We have a fantastic Fisheries Management System. As far as I am aware, no other local club has anything quite like it, but it is only as good as the data that goes in. Blank returns matter too.

Secondly - when you are out and about, report what you see. We read Incident Reports and comments on catch returns and act where appropriate. One member recently reported concerning marks on barbel at Station Bend, supplied video, and we followed it up with the Environment Agency.

If you don't tell us, we don't know.

[Report an incident to RADAS](#)

Thanks for being a member of RADAS. Tight lines!
Ron Wood, Chairman



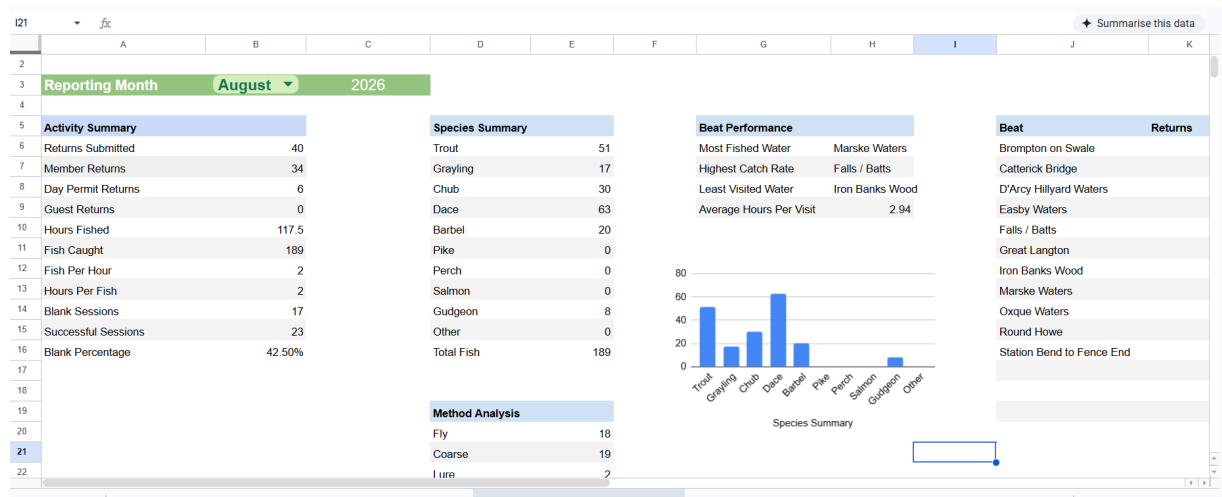
Ron Wood TD

Our New Fisheries Management System

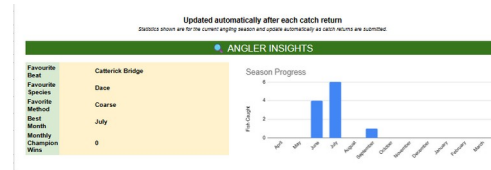
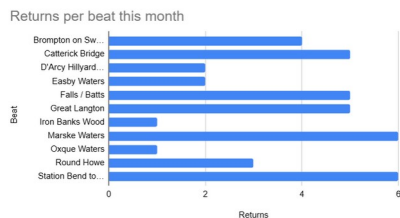
Every catch return now feeds into a powerful Fisheries Management System which updates automatically as information is submitted. It is transforming the way we understand and manage our fishery.

WHY YOUR RETURNS MATTER

The system can only be as good as the data members put into it. Please submit a return every time you fish - including blank sessions.



The management dashboard brings together catch returns, fishing effort, species, beats and methods.



What does it tell us?

The committee can see where members are fishing, how long they fish, the methods used, species caught and how individual beats are performing.

One monthly report recorded 40 returns, 117.5 hours fished and 189 fish. The system also identifies the most and least visited waters and compares catch rates between beats.

Returns per beat.

And there is something in it for you!

The Angler Performance section gives qualifying members their own season insights: favourite beat, species and method, best month, season progress, Monthly Champion wins and League Table progress.

The FMS depends on members contributing information: those who help build the picture of our fishery can explore the results in greater detail.

Members who submit catch returns recording at least 10 hours fishing RADAS waters will automatically be added to the FMS viewers list. There is no need to apply - access is added automatically. Blank sessions count too.

Angler Insights update automatically.

Get fishing. Get those returns in. Get involved!



Trout Season Over - Plenty of Fishing Ahead!

Richard Bedder with his magnificent 6lb Gatenby chub.

The 2026 trout season has ended, but it certainly is not time to put the rods away. Our attention now turns to autumn and winter coarse fishing and grayling.

Richard Bedder caught this lovely Gatenby grayling earlier this year on a stick float. Richard also caught a magnificent 6lb chub from Gatenby last year.

With Gatenby open to all members from 1st October, there has never been a better excuse to explore the beat and try something different.

Don't put the tackle away. Get out there and give it a go!



Meet Our Club Champion - Matty Peary

Current RADAS Club Champion Matty Peary.

Congratulations to Matty Peary, our current RADAS Club Champion. Matty currently leads the way having caught more fish, fished more beats and caught a greater variety of species than anyone else.

Matty is a very accomplished all-round angler, with particular expertise in predator fishing for pike and giant catfish. He will share some of that experience at our Pike Fishing for Beginners event at Gatenby on Sunday 1st November.

Well done Matty - and thanks for sharing your knowledge.

Win with RADAS!

Photo Competition

Caught something you are proud of? Send your fish photograph to Allan Harder, our Secretary, or post it on the RADAS Members Only Facebook page. Take a quick photograph before returning the fish safely - you could have a winner!

Catch Return Draw

Every catch return gives you one entry into our random prize draw. The winner receives £10 off next year's RADAS membership. One return = one chance; ten returns = ten chances. Blank sessions count too!

Autumn Events - Learn Something New



Pike Fishing for Beginners

Fancy catching your first Swale pike?

Sunday 1st November - Gatenby. Meet at the entrance at 9.00am.

This FREE beginners' session covers essential tackle and techniques, including deadbaiting, lure fishing and fly fishing. We expect to be by the river and ready for tuition at around 10.00am.

Allow about two hours for practical tuition. Afterwards you can head home or stay and fish under your own arrangements. Junior members are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

[Book / event information](#)



Grayling Flies for the River Swale

A day devoted to useful grayling flies for the Swale.

Saturday 24th October, 10.00am-4.00pm - Scorton Village Hall.

A hands-on day for beginners and improving fly tyers, led by RADAS member Duncan Courtney with Graeme Robertson and Ian Chard. The exact flies are to be confirmed.

Open to members and non-members. Tickets £12; 20 places. Already tie flies? Please bring your own vice and tools if possible.

[Book your place](#)

Winter Grayling Masterclass - SOLD OUT!



Fred Bainbridge - waiting list open.

Our forthcoming Winter Grayling Masterclass with Fred Bainbridge is SOLD OUT. Fred is a former England All Rivers Champion and an expert in modern river techniques. His previous RADAS sessions have proved extremely popular.

If you missed out, join the waiting list in case a place becomes available through cancellation.

[Join the waiting list / event information](#)

Looking After Our Waters



A Great Result for Skeeby Beck

In November 2022 RADAS commissioned the Wild Trout Trust to survey Skeeby Beck. The ford on Oliver Lane was identified as a barrier to fish movement. Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust subsequently secured funding to remove the ford and replace it with a bridge.

RADAS members assisting with the pre-removal electrofishing survey.

The completed bridge - the ford has gone.

The bridge was completed in August 2026 - a fantastic example of RADAS, the Wild Trout Trust and Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust working together.

[Read the original Wild Trout Trust advisory report](#)



Keeping an Eye on Water Quality

Will Smith carrying out monthly water-quality monitoring on Skeeby Beck.

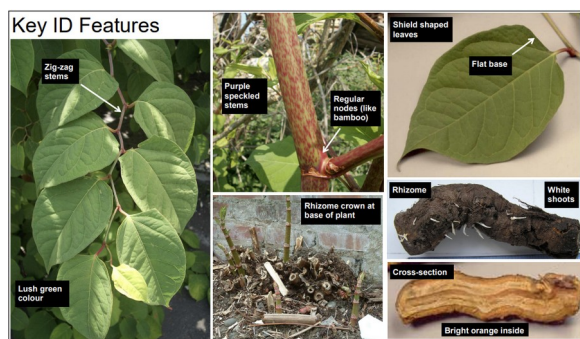
A big THANK YOU to Will Smith for his continuing work monitoring water quality on Skeeby Beck.

Will has been doing this for at least three years, heading out every month to carry out chemical tests as part of the Angling Trust Water Quality Monitoring Network.

Results are uploaded to a central database, contributing useful evidence about river condition and changes over time. Citizen science like this is an important part of RADAS's environmental work.

Well done Will, and thank you for your continuing commitment.

[Angling Trust Water Quality Monitoring Network](#)



Japanese Knotweed - Progress at Great Langton

Key identification features of Japanese Knotweed.

Our campaign continues. RADAS carried out spraying earlier in the year, but control requires repeated treatment and monitoring.

Committee member Paul Price worked extremely hard to secure support from Yorkshire Water. Thanks to Paul, Yorkshire Water arranged for a specialist contractor to carry out further spraying a few weeks ago.

A big THANK YOU and WELL DONE to Paul. If you spot Japanese Knotweed on our waters, report it to the committee and do not cut, pull or disturb it.



Anglers Against Litter

RADAS volunteers supporting World Cleanup Day and Anglers Against Litter - Sunday 20th September.

Twelve RADAS volunteers turned out on Sunday 20th September for our latest litter pick, supporting World Cleanup Day and the Angling Trust's Anglers Against Litter campaign.

The team collected rubbish from the local area. Because it was a Sunday morning, their work was seen by plenty of the public - a useful reminder that RADAS is about much more than fishing.

Thank you to all twelve volunteers who gave up their Sunday morning.

Can You Spare a Few Hours?

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are planning access-clearing work parties at Great Langton, Skeeby and Easby. Details will follow. No special skills are needed for most work parties - just a willingness to lend a hand.

JOIN OUR BAILIFF TEAM

Help protect our waters. Bailiffs qualify for the Incentive Scheme, including 20% off membership, additional fishing and other benefits. No fixed patrol hours are required.

[Find out more](#)

BECOME A RIVERFLY MONITOR

YDRT can provide free training. We need more members to undertake monthly monitoring. Trained members who make this ongoing contribution can qualify for FREE membership through our Environmental Team.

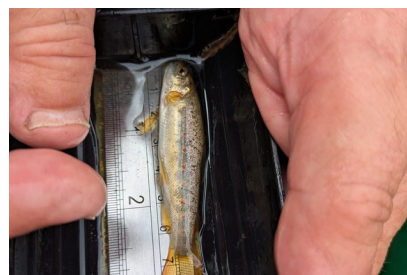
[Riverfly information](#)

CHAINSAW TRAINING

We currently have no qualified volunteer and must hire a contractor. Could you spare four days for training? If volunteers come forward, RADAS will investigate suitable training. Any work would only proceed once competence and insurance requirements are satisfied. Regular Environmental Team contribution can qualify for FREE membership.

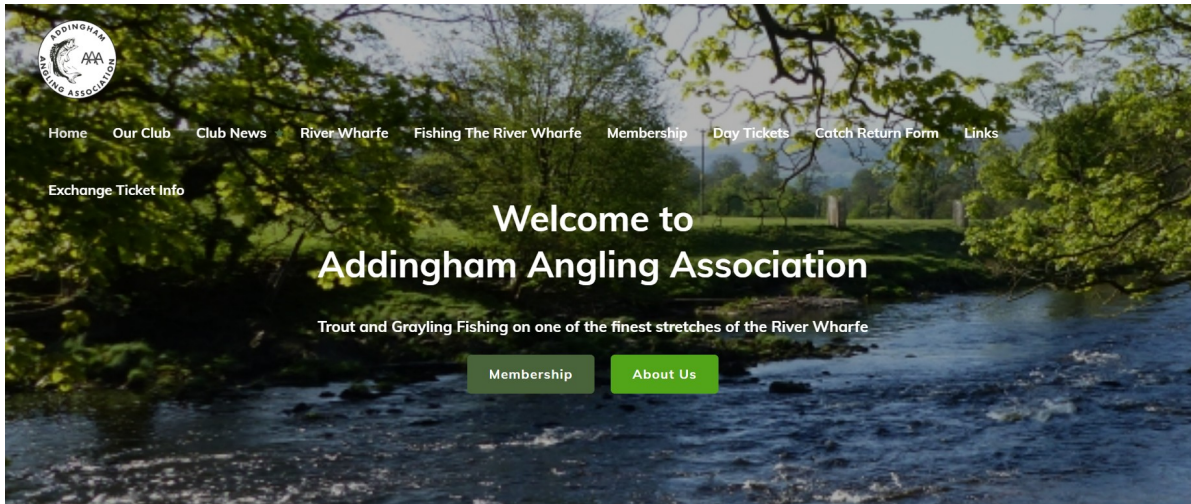


Practical fisheries work in action.



More Fishing with Your RADAS Membership

New Exchange Ticket - Addingham Angling Association



RADAS volunteers can now enjoy trout and grayling fishing on Addingham AA's River Wharfe waters.

We are delighted to announce a new exchange arrangement with Addingham Angling Association. Addingham is a small club with around 65 adult members and a substantial waiting list. Its waters include around three miles of trout and grayling fishing on the River Wharfe immediately downstream of Bolton Abbey, plus limited access to the Washburn Valley Reservoirs.

The Addingham exchange forms part of our Volunteer Incentive Scheme and is available to members who give their time to help the Society. It replaces Gatenby within the incentive scheme because Gatenby opens to all RADAS members from 1st October.

[Find out more about Addingham Angling Association](#)

Welcome to RADAS!

A warm welcome to everyone who has joined RADAS during the season. We hope you are enjoying the River Swale and our other waters. Explore the different beats, take part in club activities and ask if you need help finding your way around.

And do not forget that your RADAS membership can give you opportunities to fish well beyond our own waters.

Our Exchange Tickets

- Derwent Anglers Association
- Barnard Castle Angling Club
- Ferryhill & District Angling Club

That means even more fishing to explore on the Tees, Wear and Derwent, as well as our own extensive fishing on the Swale.

The new Addingham exchange on the Wharfe is an additional opportunity through our Volunteer Incentive Scheme.

So if you are new to RADAS, do not stick to the first stretch of river you discover. Explore the beats, try the exchange waters, come along to an event or work party and get the most from your membership.

Bring a Friend - Day Permits

If you have a friend or family member who would like to experience RADAS fishing, day permits are available for appropriate Society waters. It is a great way to introduce someone to the River Swale - and perhaps to a future RADAS membership.

[Visit the RADAS website for day-permit information](#)



Remembrance Sunday

RADAS will once again lay a wreath on behalf of the Society.

RADAS will once again take part in the Remembrance Sunday proceedings on Sunday 8th November. A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Society as we join the local community in remembering those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice.

All members are welcome. Meet at Wetherspoons at 10.30am.

Our Volunteer Bailiffs

Our volunteer club bailiffs continue to patrol Society waters and may ask to see proof of membership or a valid day permit. Please give them your full cooperation - they are fellow members giving up their own time to help protect our fishing.

If you see suspicious activity, poaching, pollution, littering, damage or anything else that concerns you, report it. The committee cannot act on something it does not know about.

[Report an incident](#)

Looking Ahead

There is plenty to look forward to. We are looking into work parties at Great Langton, Skeeby and Easby to clear and improve access, with details to be announced in due course. On the fishing side, we plan another pike fishing event and possibly a chub fishing workshop before Christmas. In the New Year we hope to offer another fly-tying day, this time focusing on trout flies for the 2027 season. Keep an eye on the website, Members Facebook page and club communications for announcements and booking details.

ENJOY YOUR AUTUMN AND WINTER FISHING

Explore Gatenby. Try for a grayling. Have a go for a pike. Help at a work party. Send us your photographs. Try an exchange ticket. And, whatever you do, please keep those catch returns coming!

WINTER SPECIAL 2026 MEMBERSHIP - ONLY £30!

Available now - covers 1st October 2026 to 14th March 2027. **NO JOINING FEE!**

[Join / find out more](#)

Thank you for supporting Richmond and District Angling Society.

www.richmondangling.org.uk

