



RICHMOND AND DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY

Established 1912

President: The Most Honourable The Marquis of Zetland

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NEWSLETTER 2022

GENERAL UPDATE

Membership fees frozen

First the good news – membership fees in 2022 will remain as last year. Conscious that cost of living was forecast to rise appreciably in 2022, coupled with the fact that last year the society ended modestly in the black, the committee decided to hold fees at 2021 prices. Permits are now available to purchase, with PayPal being the preferred option. The most significant change regarding permits is that day tickets can now be purchased on-line.

Committee and AGM

Unable to meet for another whole year due to covid, the committee continued to function effectively. Unfortunately, December's AGM also had to be cancelled for a second year in succession.

Committee personnel changes since last year include:-

Stepping down - Bill Redfern, who has served on the committee for many decades and who'll maintain an interest as one of the society's vice presidents; Roger Lombard, who did some great work revamping the maps of our waters
Joining - Ron Wood and Daniel Walters, who have been co-opted.

River improvements and restocking

Last year's newsletter reported on discussions the committee was having with the Environment Agency about the possibility of the EA embarking on a restocking programme in the mid-Swale including Richmond waters. Great progress was made on this which resulted in around 2,000 18-month-old barbel being introduced into the river below Richmond in two tranches in November and January.

The programme will run over four years with the EA committing to restocking c8,000 barbel between Richmond and Topcliffe.

The EA is keenest to stock waters where clubs demonstrate that they have on-going river improvement programmes. In media coverage of the restocking at Richmond the EA complimented the active steps which R&DAS was taking in habitat enhancement, collaborating with parties including the Wild Trout Trust and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust.

Led by committee member Peter Fietsch the society has an on-going programme. Unfortunately work continues to fall on the shoulders of a handful of committee members and Peter would love to see more volunteers.

The committee is doing its bit and it is time for members to step up – see the R&DAS website for how to get involved.

COMPETITIONS

Society events

After many years absence, the society is to run two coarse matches on Sunday 31st July and Sunday 28th August. The first match will be from Peg 11 Hagg Losh to Peg 15 at Langton. Locations for the second match will likely be the same but will be confirmed following the outcome of the first match. Competitors to meet at Millbry Hill layby (DL10 7EY) at 8.30 am with fishing from 11am to 4pm.

As well as testing the water, so to speak, as to whether local anglers would like to see a return of coarse matches, the two events will provide vital data to share with the EA as part of the mid-Swale restocking initiative.

Upper Swale Championships

The Upper Swale Championship will once again be fished on Richmond waters on Saturday 3rd September.

Fly championship qualifier

The committee has also agreed to host a qualifying match for the England rivers fly fishing championships on 10th/11th September. With trout and grayling the target species, the match will be on a section of river downstream of Richmond Falls (lookout on website nearer dates for location details). As well as potentially good publicity for R&DAS, it is anticipated that results from a match involving some of the country's top fly fishers will also provide useful feedback on the state of our waters.

FISHING UPDATES

Trout & grayling

Low water throughout the summer and into autumn meant it was a 'thin' year for many anglers. That said, there were some encouraging reports from early trout season anglers. A 4½ lb trout at Great Langton was one of the year's notable fish. In fact, there were reports of big trout at the upstream end of Langton and several around the 4lb mark were landed by anglers fishing for chub. Reasonable numbers of grayling were also in evidence, many around the 1lb mark.

Coarse

A 5lb 6oz chub put a smile on the face of one of our committee members fishing with his young son. He also reported lots of minnows and a smattering of dace. Anglers venturing out in the evening for chub found sport with some decent fish encountered at Red House Farm.

Mill Farm

Members who fished Mill Farm Fishery continued to enjoy the facility with TAA maintaining its restocking programme.

Skeeby Beck

The beck is fished relatively little but is well worth a visit for those who enjoy the challenge of a small stream. There are certainly fish in there with reports of some notable grayling landed further down the system.

Ones which didn't get away

The R&DAS website gallery has some great photos of fish caught on our waters – have a look and you'll be rushing for your gear! Please let us have any photos from when you are out and about fishing on our waters – send them to the website via the Contact Us feature.

The website has received lots of very complimentary remarks since it was revamped with thanks due to committee member Paul Landray, our IT guru. If you haven't tried it lately have a go www.richmondangling.org.uk

Hopefully we'll see you all again by the river or lake in 2022/23.

Best wishes,

R&DAS Committee.

Look out for updates throughout the year on the society's website