

Merthyr Tydfil Angling Alliance Page 1

Newsletter March 2020



We purchased our Kemeys fishery Beat In June 1979. It was our first beat on the river Usk and it set us up as an association as the river Usk in those days was still considered as a prime Salmon fishery.

This also meant the start of a very friendly and productive relationship with the Morgan's family who own the land. Our main contacts were at that time John and Gareth the brothers who were running the farm. There are few now on the committee from those days who will remember how this relationship has built up. We know also that many of our members have over the years got to know John and Gareth as they have mentioned them many times when booking in and both always had a friendly word for our members. It is with deep sadness that we have to inform you that Gareth sadly passed away over the weekend of the 1st of March we send our condolences to the family at this sad time from us all. His funeral will be at Langstone Crematorium near Newport on the 19th March 2020 at 10-30 am followed by a service in Usk Church at 12 noon.

The new Trout and Salmon fishing season is upon us. I do not know when our river will be fishable as locally our reservoirs are carrying a lot of sediment from land slips high in the mountains. Our earlier news letter informing you of the damage the weather has caused showed this. Welsh Water are working to clear the major landslip below Pontsticill. We will welcome any reports of fish caught on the Taf Fechan and pictures if possible. It is important that you send us pictures of large and small fish and particularly any Salmon parr for our records

Note the following from Environment Agency who sell the Rod Fishing Permits for both England and Wales: Quote They: **We are aware that some websites are offering to buy or check licence applications on your behalf. The Environment Agency does not endorse these services. If you're buying online, always get your licence direct from GOV.UK and take extra care when using a search engine that you don't stray onto other sales sites.** Getting your licence direct from us is cheaper, quicker and a lot simpler. You can also get your fishing licence by calling our telephone sales line on 0344 800 5386 or from your local post office. Please heed this as last week dealing with Land Registry I had been quoted £3 per item I needed last week. I opened what I thought was the Land registry site went in and the quote was £45. Eye watering.

The Wye Salmon Association are offering the following you need to be a paid up member : Great news as part of our exclusive to members 'Get More Rods on Rivers Scheme' (GMROR), WSA have now acquired a Monday rod at Whitney Court throughout the 2020 salmon season. Usual methods of booking through our diary Link to Diary There are now 10 beats with fishing available in various ways as a benefit of WSA membership. Some of you who may fish the Wye as well as our waters may wish to try this.

Can we remind you that the new Salmon Bylaws are now a legal requirement to follow when fishing: Visit the web page of Merthyr Tydfil Angling Alliance Fishing and click on Bylaws. We have put all the notes for many rivers on there as some of our members do travel. Please check the rivers for the ones you fish. At the end of the bylaws there is a word document with all the text on them.

The access problem is still in dispute and meetings are taking place to see if the issue can be resolved. We continue to be involved and support voluntary access on shared terms only. We are waiting for reports from the last meeting of the Welsh Government Access Forum.



A 19lb from Top Pond in January



A 22lb from Cyfarthfa Lake January



A 21 lb from Cyfarthfa



A 15 lb from Top Pond



A pair of quality anglers with their fish left and above one of nearly 19 lb from Top Pond



Fly's by
Gavin Jehu
Lee Edwards
Liam Walsh





Our Coarse fish fisheries have fished well through the winter for those who have braved the weather. Mark Sweeney and Adam Toomey had two good days on Pontsticill between the worse winter for rain in living memory.



The pictures either side of Mark Left and Adam Right give a flavour of what Pontsticill can produce even in Winter. They have tried to hold some small matches on there but have been rained and blown off course. Follow what they are doing on our face book page . If you like a change from the put and take commercials then spend some time to explore PONTSTICILL.



A selection of Trout caught by Daniel Popp and Rhys Morgan on the river Taff using a French leader and nymphs. The little one top right is a salmon Parr good to see we have at least one in our river.

