

THE GLEN'S ANGLING CLUB
AGM
SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT
Friday 14th April 2023

The past year, since our last AGM in 2022, has been less difficult, with Covid in retreat. Sadly, we have lost some friends and family members, but thankfully, we are getting back to some sort of normality in our lives and hopefully now ready to enjoy rod angling as it should be.

The 2023 AGM will take place in the usual venue: The Old School House, Mill Street, Cushendall, BT44 0RR, on Friday 14th April at 7:30pm. Face masks may be worn should anyone wish to do so and hand sanitiser will be available for attendees to use.

During the summer of 2022 the weather again was exceptionally good, with long dry spells, which was not great for water flow. However during the latter part of the fishing season there was a great deal of rain. Sadly, the returning adult salmon were few.

It would appear that the few salmon that did manage to return to the Glens Rivers were during the late summer, with virtually no fresh run in the latter part of September and October.

Rod catches reported for the Glendun were six salmon landed, albeit there were a number hooked up but lost before netting. This is based on figures returned by anglers.

Each year white trout reported numbers were slightly up on the previous years. The size and quality were better. The Cushendall and Glenariff rivers are equally poor, with one large salmon hooked in the Cushendall river, but pulled the hook just before netting.

The search for salmon reeds in November and December were fairly positive especially on the Glendun.

Research work for "The Missing Salmon Project" had to be put on hold during the Covid-19 pandemic in all areas. However on 16th April 2021 a few GAC members assisted The Salmon Research Station & AFBI personnel based at Bushmills to carry out research work on smelts and trout on the Glendun River.

As I prepare this report, no research work has been carried out, since then, on any of the Glens Rivers and no publication of the original findings were made public. The purpose of the research work was to establish the reason as to why so few smelts survive the transition from fresh water to salt water. The previous year's figures show as many as 50% don't survive.

The purpose of this research work was to:

1. IDENTIFY THE KEY AREAS OF THE MORTALITY
2. PRIORITISE THE CAUSES OF THE MORTALITY
3. CREATE AND IMPLEMENT PLANS TO REVERSE THE TREND

More information on this research work can be obtained by calling
Telephone: 0131 221 6550 or On-line: info@atlanticsalmontrust.org

All club members and day ticket holders are encouraged to carefully remove a few scales from both salmon and white trout before releasing them. This will help towards realising the history of that fish. Store the scales in a plastic envelope e.g. a bank coin bag. Then either give to me or send directly to Richard Kennedy, c/o Bushmills Salmon Research Station.

Please remember all white trout and salmon must be carefully released back into the Glens rivers. This is to help conserve our dwindling stocks.

Thankfully our club membership has improved slightly since this time last year. However, there are still very few juveniles joining the membership.

Just as a reminder, the freshwater lake at TheTurnagrove Lake on the Drones Road, Armoy, is available for our club members. A club member must show his or her Glens Angling Club yellow membership card on arrival. You can fish all day for a reduced special rate of £10 (Catch and Release). If you want to take fish home, it will cost three pounds more.

The club membership fee for the year 2023 is now due.

Non locals - £30

Locals (*those members living in Cushendun, Cushendall or Glenariffe*) - **£25**

Seniors (*60 years and over*) - **£10**

Juniors (*Under 18s*) - **£1**

All members can send their membership card, with a stamped addressed envelope, to my address at: 46 Glendun Road, Cushendun, BT44 0PY. I will return it to you, as soon as possible thereafter.

If some members want to send a credit transfer for their membership please contact me directly through the club website.

I would like to thank all those persons who helped out during the past two years. Your Club Officers, the Committee, Gary Huston, Jim Haughey (Ulster Angling Federation "UAF"), they attend meetings on our behalf, keep us informed of the developments at ministerial level and deal with the Club insurance for both members and Club Officers with MEAD Sport & Leisure Limited.

I thank you, the Club Members for your support during this past year.

Hugo McCormick (Hon Sec)

Mobile 07740613604

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