

WARDEN FISHING NEWSLETTER 2019

2018 Summary

2018 once again saw another very good head of fish in the rivers at Warden and, even during the protracted drought conditions of the summer months, migratory fish still entered the Tyne system in good numbers. The most challenging month to fish was July, purely because of the high water temperatures and low flows in the rivers which made the fish very difficult to tempt.

Kielder releases this summer were a godsend as they encouraged fish to migrate upstream out of the acknowledged Tyne tidal danger zone, where the potential for fish deaths exists especially in heatwave conditions - thankfully disaster was averted.

2018 catches were 162 salmon (2017 - 181) and 100 sea trout (2017 - 114).

We recorded our fourth best season to date for both the numbers of salmon and sea trout.

Salmon up to 25 lb and sea trout up to 12 lb were caught at Warden, with average weights in the region of 11½ lb and 4 lb 8 oz respectively.

The fish counter at Riding Mill recorded 32,852 salmon and sea trout to the end of October (32,085 in 2017) and, in spite of the dry summer, this compared favorably with the long term records, which average around 32,000 fish per season.

2019

Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust – We are pleased to have been able to support the Trust's Sea Trout research program by helping to fund the purchase of Data Storage Tags, to be fitted to Sea Trout to help unlock the mystery of what happens to this enigmatic fish in marine waters.

James Stokoe, who won the 2015 BBC World's Wildest Waters Big Fish fishing competition, is a Warden local, who this year has been made an Ambassador for the Fishing for Schools Charity which runs angling courses for pupils' aged 10-16. James is also an Angling Trust Ambassador, and was filmed at Warden in August 2018 with Hywel Morgan for the Salmon fishing episode of the upcoming Untamed Anglers Iconic Fish series. James is available to Guide and Ghillie at Warden – email us for further details.

Management - We will continue to meet and greet with enthusiasm either at the beat or at the Boatside Inn car park and will be able to show people the beats and explain the pools. In each of the last 3 years, we have been able to help a number of rods to catch their first salmon. Ghillies and Instructors are available

Prices for 2019 are as follows:

- 1st Feb to 9th June £35
- 10th to 30th June £50
- 1st to 28th July £60
- 29th July to 25th Aug £65
- 26th Aug to 31st Oct £80

Warden Farm shop – Following the December 2015 flood, the Warden Farm shop was reopened for business as Citrus Catering and caters for events, supplies picnic hampers as well as ready-made or frozen meals. Contact Mouse by email strakermouse@hotmail.com or mobile 07885 541 765.

Accommodation - The Boatside Inn (01434 60 22 33), now managed by Matt Cawood, is open for all meals and has 2 Holiday Cottages (1 one bed and 1 two bed) accommodation and 3 B&B.
<https://theboatsideinn.com>

We also have a 4 bedroom house at Frankham, above the South Tyne Fourstones beat (for details click <https://www.cottages.com/cottages/mill-house-uk10341>)