

OBAN AND LORN ANGLING CLUB

Charity No. SCO47428

Dear Member

A quick roundup of the Club news since the last newsletter.

Boats

All boats except Loch Gleann a Bhearraidh are now ashore for the winter. Some repairs will be required before the Sior Loch boat and the Loch an Leoid boat are relaunched but at least the Sior Loch boat is up near the road, which will be a help when we go back to attach the keel band.

The Nant water level had reached the mooring gabion when we went out to see how the boat there was faring. The boat was floating gunwale deep so we were able to pull it in and bail it. We rigged a snatch block and pulled the boat out and up above the highest perceptable water line using Richard's 4x4. The site chosen for the new mooring will be reconsidered in the light of the tremendous variation in the level of Loch Nant we now see. A longer mooring loop to accommodate the low level and still remain usable when it rises and falls may solve the problem. The banks by the boat are stabilising and consolidating with the growth of vegetation. We may yet be able to maintain a usable boat on Loch Nant.

Loch Nell track

With the road maintenance in progress in the area, we were able to source a pile of road planings for Dunach Estate, which you may recall was part of our agreement to enable season permit holders to use the Loch Nell boat this year. This is only part of the deal. We will also need a work party to fill holes on the track to the boat. This will be on November 28th. We will use a mini digger to load planings onto a trailer. The manual work will just involve shovelling planings off the trailer into the holes as it is taken down the track, then raking them level. Please bring a spade or shovel, if you have one, a rake would also be

useful. I will send a reminder next week. A good turnout for this work party will help to show Dnach that the Club cares about the Loch Nell fishing and hopefully retain the estate's goodwill. If we are not seen to value the boat there, I fear that they will discontinue our permission to use the track next year.

Fly Tying Classes

Gavin Mavlean is a very good fly tier, as those of us who bought tickets for the raffled boxes of flies he donated at the start of the 2019 season will remember. Now Gavin has offered to run fly tying classes at the Club Hut, Mossfield to share his expertise. The first class will be on Wednesday 24th November at 7:30pm. This will be a free event for any Club member who would like to start fly tying or brush up their skills. If enough members are interested, this will be the first of a series of classes through the close season. If you have never tied a fly, Gavin will provide equipment for up to three members. If you already have a fly tying vice and materials, feel free to bring them along. The Hut can seat up to 10 at the tables in the meeting room. Tea and coffee will be available. Please confirm if you will be there; if you would like to come but are otherwise engaged on that date, please also let me know.

Committee

The next committee meeting will be on Saturday November 20th at the Club Hut, Mossfield. I am happy to be able to welcome Charlie Limond and Peter MacKay to the committee. Both are frequent attendees at work parties and I am sure will be valuable committee members. Their volunteering brings the number on the committee to seven - Myself, President; Allan Coutts, Secretary and Boat Booking Recorder; Iain Moody, Treasurer; Nick Bradbury, Assistant Treasurer and Webmaster; Richard Wilson, Charlie Limond and Peter MacKay. If any other members feel able to spare some time to help administer the Club by joining the committee, please let me know. Your services are always welcome.

I hope that you have enjoyed your fishing in the 2021 Season. The Club had more full members than it has had for several years and sees us well financed for 2022. With new waters and repairs to fund, this is a good position to be in. The next newsletter will have details of the postponed 2020 AGM and the date of the AGM for 2022. We will try and give plenty of notice, because we would like to see as many members attending as possible.

With kind regards

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