



OBAN AND LORN

ANGLING CLUB

Charity No. SCO47428

Dear Member

This is the latest newsletter in which I am pleased to bring you up to date on the state of the Club's boats and lochs for the season, following a busy week for the work party attendees. Please read to the end for news of an upcoming work party.

Loch Seil

The boat on Loch Seil is available for booking, having been launched last week by Allan and Willie who stay in the vicinity.

Loch Gleann a Bhearraidh

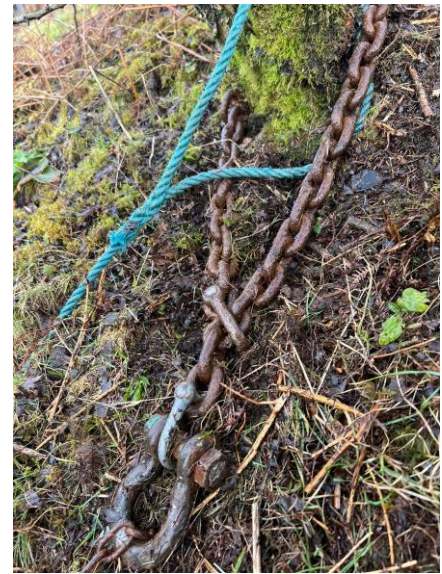


Andy MacDougall is our new Boat Booking Recorder and committee member. He has hit the ground running. He went up the Loch Gleann a Bhearraidh last week and took a renewed and refurbished mooring with him. Not content with that, he proved his physical prowess by turning the boat over and launching it on his own, putting it on the new mooring loop. Quite an achievement and a great result - the boat is ready for use.

Gleann a Bhearraidh looking very fishable

Loch Oude

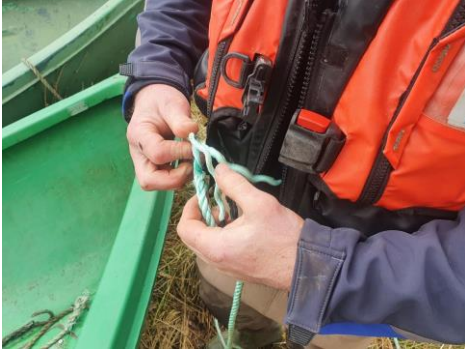
Loch Oude had its boat put in on Friday 11th and then taken out again, because I forgot that the mooring was in the yard for refurbishment after being shifted by ice in the winter of 2020-21. We made sure that the mooring was taken down by the work party of Sunday 13th and the boat was put out on it, further from the shore with a modified attachment to



the tether round the hawthorn tree. It now has a length of heavy chain to a shackle, which will help the loop to run freely and save the tree from being debarked.

Loch Avich

Loch Avich was the second target for the work party on Friday and here there were no problems. Both boats are now on their moorings and available for booking. Thanks to Allan, Andy, Drhue, Peter, Gregor, Willie, and Zim who made the Friday work party a success despite my not providing the mooring for Oude. We can have a well-attended work party on a weekday and this has been noted for the future.



Loch Dhub Mhor, Kimelford

This was the destination for Sunday's work party. Bruce, Andy, Iain, Drhue and Gregor were the active attendees, while I did the preparation for it on Saturday and then dodged the field work to prepare Permit Sellers' Packs on Sunday after seeing the work party away. The Loch Dhub Mhor boat was launched with some effort after being trailered up as close as it could be taken. I have lost track of when it was that we started the renewal of the Loch Dhub Mhor boat - I would have to look in my 2019 diary, I think to find the exact date. Suffice to say I hope we can turn the next boat around in

less time. However, it is now on the mooring in Loch Dhub Mhor and ready for use.



Catch Report

Given that the Season is only two days old I was pleased to receive a catch report from Drhue, who despite (or perhaps because) he had spent two days launching boats at the weekend, decided to go to the River Awe at Polfearn, where full permit holders can fish by generous permission of our Honorary President, Mrs Sarah Troughton. Drue reported catching and releasing four brownies, and sent me this picture to prove that even in the brackish water where Loch Etive and the Awe meet, there are brown trout to be caught.



Next Work Party

We will have a work party and go up to Loch Nant on 27th March. We will aim to get the boat into the water from its winter resting place, which you may recall was high above the loch in the inlet by the Tower. Depending on the level of the loch, we may be able to put the boat onto its original mooring below the road where it approaches the inlet burn from the Sior Lochs. Failing that, if the water has gone down again, we might be able to moor it in the Tower inlet where we created a new tether using a gabion. If you are out that way and can report back on the water level, please let me know. As always, an email to let me know whether or not you are coming makes all the difference to having a successful work party or not.

Routine Work

Another boat leaves the Hut, and another boat comes in... This is the wee boat that we intend to put into Dubh Loch Mor, Barcaldine which we acquired as a new water last year. The boat will be given a set of bottom boards and flotation under the seats. The deadline for this is Easter.



Regular Opening

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter, I intend to try and keep “Open Hut” on Friday mornings for the foreseeable future. I shall be there every Friday at 11:00am and have work available for anyone who can spare an hour or so to drop in and help. The last time I was joined by members Peter and Richard who came down and painted the flotation cases for the LDM boat, then scrubbed old paint from the Hut wall. The Hut now looks much better on that side but the work needs to be kept up or it will never be finished. I hope to see you there on Friday 18th if you are free.

Membership

As of today, we have 57 members in the Club who have paid their annual subscriptions. Out of 85 members at the end of October 2021, that is a very good rate of renewal and/or of new or old members rejoining. We were concerned that the horrible lockdowns and the other effects of the pandemic may have given us an unusually high membership over the past couple of years. The signs are that the Club is proving to be popular with both local and visiting anglers to a greater extent than for some time.

Website

If you have just joined the Club and would like to see the previous Newsletters, they should be available for download from the website at <https://www.obanandlorn-anglingclub.co.uk>. If you click through to this, you may see messages that the website certificate does not match the server name. We are working to resolve this problem but you can click through and the website will open. You may even find that Google Chrome gives you a message to say that the site is unsafe. It is not unsafe, this is just a temporary glitch and we will hopefully have it sorted by the time you read this. On the website you will find the boat booking form and catch return form which you can use online. We are very grateful to Nick for looking after the website – it is an essential admin task and one that makes a big difference to our public profile.

I will sign off by wishing you a successful season in 2022. Look out for news of another NEW WATER of which more details will be forthcoming when I am able to provide full information as to the location and access.

With kind regards

Jonathan Anglesea
President, Oban and Lorn Angling Club