



OBAN AND LORN ANGLING CLUB

Charity No. SCO47428

27th January 2024

Dear Member

Belated Happy New Year for 2024!

I have only a few items to present in this newsletter, but they are relevant to all members so please read the newsletter carefully.

Urgent Work!

Our Hut Compound needs urgent repairs to the fence.



This photo from Ritchie shows the state of it after the recent gales. If anyone is free to come and help to restore it on Monday 29th of January, I shall be on site to dismantle it and prepare to put new posts in. All and any help will be very welcome.

AGM

As you may recall, the AGM for the 2023 season was scheduled for Sunday 25th of February 2024 at the Argyll House Hotel. They have been in touch to tell me that as the hotel is being sold, they cannot accommodate us due to change of ownership. We will therefore have to find an alternative venue, and this may necessitate a change of date. For now, we must regard the

date of the AGM as uncertain. Watch for another newsletter to update you when we have made new arrangements.

Committee

The committee have all agreed continue to serve in their current roles for the 2024 season. Of course, this is subject to challenge at the AGM and until elections have been held, their positions are provisional. New members of the committee would be welcomed gladly at any time. We need an Assistant Treasurer, after Nick sadly passed away last year. If anyone has a mind to join the committee, this is a role which would give you a good introduction to the workings of the Club and be a great help to Iain, our Treasurer. Nick was also our website administrator, so that position is also unfilled at present. We would be very grateful if anyone could step up and take on this role. It is not very difficult, and as they say in the job adverts – “full training will be provided”.

Subscriptions

The Club had a good year in 2023 with over 80 members joining or rejoining, and a good number of day, three day and weekly tickets sold. This should mean that the accounts will again show a small surplus, and the committee have decided to keep the subscriptions the same for the 2024 season. Full subscribers will pay £75 and concessionary members (over 65, disabled, student, and unemployed) £55. What else can give you so much fun for so little expense? (I know, but that was a rhetorical question). Subscriptions are now due so please pay as soon as you are able. All membership cards and car tickets have been prepared and can now be collected from The Anglers' Corner, George Street, Oban. Please ensure that you take CASH to pay for your card – the service of card pick-up is provided to us free and so it is disrespectful to expect the shop to afford any other means of payment which will result in their incurring costs. CASH ONLY IS THE RULE.

Raffle

Gavin MacLean has very kindly offered to organise a raffle with prizes of his own superb flies. These are better than any you will find in the shops, tied with our own lochs in mind. There will be a First Prize (box of flies) a Second Prize (smaller box of flies) and a Booby Prize (yes, a jar of boobies). Tickets will be £5 each. This will give you a chance to win flies worth some hundreds of pounds for a modest outlay, all of which will go to Club funds. The raffle will run alongside the card collection at the Anglers' Corner; you will be able to buy raffle tickets from the shop when you collect and pay for your cards. Some tickets will also be available from Iain Moody for those members who are unable to collect from the Anglers' Corner. The draw for the raffle will take place at a committee meeting in April, so the winners will be able to put their prizes into action soon after the season starts.

Work Parties

It is a while yet to go before the start of the season, but some jobs were left incomplete at the end of 2023. We have a damaged boat at Torinturk on Loch Nell that needs to be recovered. We also need to re-lay the mooring at Loch Gleann a Bhearraidh and extend the mooring at Loch an Leoid. These are jobs that can be done at any time, without waiting for the flush of enthusiasm immediately prior to the new season. When the weather is suitable, I will be calling for volunteers to help get these things done - sooner rather than later. Be warned!

Friday Hut Sessions

Ritchie and I have been plugging away in the hut on Friday mornings since the end of the 2023 season. We have been getting the padlocks, chains, bailers, rowlocks, pins, and oars

ready for the coming season. We will also be making some new boat seats and a couple of raised seats to span the gunwales and provide a higher casting platform in the boats. We also have the new boat which we were given last year to make ready.

None of this work is heavy or particularly challenging so if you have the time to spare, we will welcome you to come and help us wield a paintbrush or scraper. Each job is itself but a small task, however with more than ten boats to keep in commission the work adds up to many hours and we need some help if it is to be done before March 15th.

I'll close now by wishing you all the best for 2024.

Yours Aye

Jonathan Anglesea
President, Oban and Lorn Angling Club