

The Grayling Angler's Guide

To waters and where to fish
in Great Britain



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The Grayling Society

The Grayling Angler's Guide

**To waters and where to fish
in Great Britain**

5th Edition, 2013



The Grayling Angler's Guide

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EDITOR'S PREFACE TO THE 2013 EDITION

For this revised Grayling Angler's Guide, we have decided to remove the listings of angling clubs and national bodies as these were felt to be redundant (the Angling club information is already listed by river), out of date, or simply not very useful.

We have not limited inclusions to those organisations that issue day tickets. Many clubs and associations have membership schemes that are excellent value for money, and give members greater choice of fishing destinations.

We have included many more web addresses for angling clubs and organisations that may have useful information about fishing access, river conditions, etc. We recognise that not everyone uses the web and so, wherever

possible, the addresses and phone numbers of club officers and other useful contacts have been included as well.

I offer my warmest thanks to all those who have contributed to this new edition, whether individual members who have sent details of their own clubs and associations, or the Society's secretaries and officers who have checked and listed scores of fishing resources. I must particularly thank Alan Ayre, Roger Smith and Louis Noble. Without them, and without the support of members everywhere, there would be no GAG.

Enjoy your fishing, and try a new river or two!

Bob Male

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INTRODUCTION

In 1975 a group of enthusiastic Grayling anglers got together and formed the Grayling Society with three aims; to promote Awareness, Conservation and Angling for Grayling. From those early days the Society has grown from strength to strength, constantly working to improve on the three aims.

Awareness

Throughout Scotland, England and Wales the grayling is becoming more widely recognised as a valuable asset to waters instead of as vermin. Clubs and Fishery owners who run Trout fisheries are also seeing that opening up their waters for grayling fishing can be beneficial, extending the fishing season through into the new year. As a consequence The Lady of the Stream is now seen by many for the beautiful hard fighting game fish that it really is.

Conservation / Research

We still know relatively little about the biology and ecology of grayling, but research by the Environment Agency, The

Grayling Research Trust and other interested organisations has unlocked some of the grayling's secrets.

The Society recently appointed a Conservation Officer to administer grant aid for grayling conservation projects.

Angling

This guide has been published to help Grayling Society members find and visit waters in Scotland, England and Wales. It cannot be a definitive guide, but it is hoped that the guide is comprehensive enough to help members find and fish for grayling in waters previously unknown to them.

PLEASE REMEMBER, DETAILS FOR WATERS CAN AND DO CHANGE, SO CHECK BEFORE SETTING OUT ON YOUR FISHING TRIP.

If details have changed or you know of waters not included, please contact Bob Male on 01722 503939, or by e-mail at rmale123@virginmedia.com



COLLECTING GRAYLING RIVERS

By John Brennand

Grayling river collecting is a disease to which most sensible anglers are immune. I caught it from Reg Righyni, during the many happy years we fished together.

First let me say that Reg took a generous view of the term “river” - applying it to any water with its own name, source, or formed by the confluence of distinct streams. The mighty Tay and the tiny Kings Somborne Brook had equal status. He also included still waters and canals.

The criterion for claiming a new river is a grayling brought to hand by fair, though not necessarily purist angling. In Scotland we fished in winter, mainly November and December, and trotted small worms. I have also used maggot and sweet corn and one winter caught a grayling on baby orange peel. From the Midlands southwards most of our grayling were caught in the autumn on fly.

Also, although river collecting inevitably leads to numbers, that modern distraction, the league table, has no place. During each angler’s lifetime, opportunities vary. Some rivers lose grayling and others gain them. Only circumstances and mortality curtail the endless possibilities. I know that those with extensive experience of grayling fishing worldwide will smile kindly on my collection of British brooks and burns (and major rivers famous throughout the angling world) and acknowledge that what we have in common is the delight in seeing what is round the next bend, and in the next valley.

The Pill Hill Brook illustrates many points. Reg’s standing in the angling world had brought an invitation to fish for grayling on a beautiful stretch of the Test, which we did successfully and gratefully. Reg’s scouts had also had arranged permission on other new rivers in those parts. Eventually the Pill Hill Brook was the goal and I must admit that at this stage in my apprenticeship I tagged along rather reluctantly “What, leave the Test, for the Pill Hill Brook?”

I perked up when I spotted a nice grayling about a yard beyond a screen of bankside rushes. A dry fly dangled and drifted over it induced several rises, but no actual offer. A Sawyer Bug in midwater ignored, but the addition of a shot to take the bug to eye level induced a confident take. A northern angler, unused to such visual excitement, I was by now in a fair state of tizzy. I forgot that my landing net was on an elasticated lanyard, and allowed it to recoil just as the fish was about to enter. Reg also was unsuccessful so we had to go back a year or two later.

Next time on a Sawyer Bug, I managed to extract a grayling from so difficult a lie, in the gap upstream of a plank bridge and willow, that even my mentor was impressed. Inspired, he cast over the barbed wire down the tunnel of trees and hooked a grayling, which fortunately I managed to reach over another strand of barbed wire in the thicket below. Just two good grayling and the day was made, an experience we would have missed had success crowned our first visit.

My list contains some famous grayling rivers – Teviot, Tummel, Tweed, Tay, Tees and Till amongst them. Some rivers,

though not famed for grayling, are absent. I have caught grayling in tributaries of Thames, Trent and Tyne and now hanker after the main rivers - a slim chance, I suspect.

On a family holiday the nagging realisation that Perth to Launceston and back involves a round trip of over a thousand miles gradually got to me. After losing a grayling early on, I then persisted with the wrong options for the rest of the afternoon and departed blank from the most prolific pool on the Tamar.

Also in the list are many small waters where grayling are present, probably only in the last few hundred yards. In two, the Aldbourn and the Dunning Burn, the grayling were caught twenty yards from the confluence. In many of these little rivers I caught only one small grayling. A small grayling from a small stream: why bother? I agree this does not appeal to some anglers but in others it rekindles the excitement of childhood exploits, when to catch a little fish was a memorable event. However, my only Ale grayling weighed 2 pounds. I take credit for exploring a lot of these tributaries myself, but on others I was led by the hand and given inch-perfect advice.

These are some of the essentials for successful river collecting:

- 1) As always in angling – opportunity and good luck.
- 2) Essential: domestic understanding, tolerance and even blessing.
- 3) Sympathetic friends and kindly strangers (many of whom became friends) prepared to explore waters in their area on your behalf.

4) Kind people willing to allow eccentrics to fish where access is normally restricted.

5) A willingness to travel on the off-chance of success.

6) A certain pig headed persistence – as found occasionally in Yorkshire men.

7) A modicum of angling versatility.

8) A cool head when struggling to catch a rising fish, miles from home, when this may be the only chance. Coolness, alas, may evaporate at the critical moment.

9) Concentration on the task in hand: in a new area, with the possibility of several new rivers in one day, catch a grayling in the river of your choice, before anticipating the next.

10) A clear head: don't partake too freely on the night before.

11) A delight in William Caine's "little graylings" – they may be all the water has to offer on the day.

12) A readiness to fish amongst the shopping trolleys, which may go hand in hand with seeing a town kingfisher.

Finally, a health warning: river collecting is addictive.

Acknowledgements

In recent years many anglers have contacted me with offers of help, some of which I have been able to take up. Where I have not yet responded this is simply because of lack of opportunity – due to other commitments, distance, the shortness of the season etc. I keep hoping. Meantime, I would like to give my warmest thanks to all who have helped me to fish in so many different waters, by my own efforts I would have achieved only a fraction of this experience and enjoyment.

The following is a list of rivers and their tributaries where I have caught grayling in Britain.

EAST SCOTLAND / NORTHUMBERLAND

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Tay	Lyon Tummel Isla	Loch Faskally Dean Water Ericht Lunan Burn Keithick Burn	Garry Kerbet Water
Earn	Braan Shochie Burn Almond Pow Machany Water Ruthven Water Dunning Burn Eas Gobhain		
Teith			
Water of Leith			
North Esk (Midlothian)			
Tweed	Lyne Ettrick Gala Water Leader Teviot	Rule Ale Jed Oxnam Kale	
	Eden Leet Till	Glen Wooler Water	Bowmont Water
	Alan Water (trib. of R. Forth)		

WEST SCOTLAND

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Clyde	Duneaton Water Coulter Water Medwin Duglas Water Mouse Nethan Avon South Calder White Cart Gryfe	Kype Locher Water	
Ayr	Lugar Water of Coyle		
Annan	Kinnel Water Dryfe Water		
Nith	Cairn		

NORTH WEST ENGLAND

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Eden	Hoff Beck Eamont Irthing		
Ribble	Hodder Calder		

NORTH EAST ENGLAND

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Blyth Derwent Wear Tees	Pont		

YORKSHIRE

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Whitby Esk Derwent	Thornton Beck Rye	Seph Riccald Dove Seven Costa Beck	Oxfolds Beck Pickering Beck
Swale	Skeedby Beck Bedale Beck Cod Beck		
Ure	Cover Skell	Laver	
Nidd Wharfe Aire Don Driffield Beck	Calder	Colne	Holme

DERBYSHIRE/STAFFORDSHIRE

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Grayton Brook Dove	Manifold Churnet Tean		
Derwent	Noe Wye		

WALES/SHROPSHIRE/HEREFORDSHIRE

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Dee	Tryweryn		
Severn	Alwen	Tanat	
Wye	Vyrnwy		
	Teme		
	Elan		
	Ithon		
	Irfon		
	Llynfi		
	Lugg		
Taff			
Rhymney			

SOUTHERN ENGLAND

River	Tributary (1)	Tributary (2)	Tributary (3)
Coln			
Windrush			
Pang			
Kennet	Aldbourn		
West Rother	Lod		
Meon			
Itchen	Alre		
Test	Bourne		
	Dever		
	Anton	Pill Hill Brook	
		Golden Stream	
	Wallop Brook		
	Kings		
	Sombourne Brook		
	Dun		
	Blackwater		
Avon	Nadder	Wylfe	Till
	Bourne		
	Ebble		
	Allen River		
Stour (Dorset)	Shreen		
	Allen		
Frome (Dorset)			

GRAYLING SOCIETY FISHING GUIDE

SCOTLAND

Grayling Society Area 12

By Alan Ayre

There were no grayling in Scotland until they were introduced to the Clyde from Derbyshire in 1855. Subsequent years saw more introductions, and now the following rivers and some of their tributaries hold grayling:- Ayr; Clyde; the Tay system including Earn, Isla, & Tummel; Annan; Nith; Tweed and Teviot. In the Forth catchment, the Almond, Esk, Water of Leith, Teith and the Forth itself have seen them introduced in recent year. These are principally salmon rivers, it is de rigeur to give way to salmon anglers, and good practice is essential to help allay salmon interests' lingering suspicions that grayling anglers are poachers. (note, there are no grayling north of the Pitlochry area, but grayling are now to be found in the lower Garry.)

As there is no closed season for grayling in Scotland they can be fished for throughout the year, but the Spring months when they are spawning should be avoided. Though ticket costs are rising at some venues, prices are generally modest and a rod licence is not required. Many clubs and riparian owners apply varying restrictions, particularly in the winter months, so it is best to make enquiries before travelling (typing their name into a search engine like Google can often produce useful information).

Important note - There are Protection Orders on the Clyde, Earn, Tay, Tummel, and Tweed, which make it a criminal

offence to fish them without a ticket. Anglers should also be aware of precautions necessary to prevent the introduction of, and the transfer of signal crayfish and other non-native pests.

River Ayr

The Ayr and tributaries such as the Coyle and the Lugar Water were once prolific grayling streams, but in recent years stocks plummeted due to intensive dairying and open-cast coal mining. Efforts to improve water quality and habitat by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust are helping, and grayling can still be caught in places. The River Irvine too once had grayling but they are now considered to have died out some time ago. See www.ayrshireriverstrust.org

- 1) Ayr A.C.** No winter fishing, but a £10 D/t from Gamesport, The Sandygate, Ayr, Tel: 01292 263822. Website: www.gamesportofayr.co.uk) allows trout and grayling fishing from 15th March to 31st October.
- 2) Ladykirk A.C.** may grant access to bona fide grayling anglers. Contact secretary Iain Robertson Tel: 07878 001689.
- 3) Tarbolton and Failford A.C.** D/ts available between 15th March and 31st October through Gamesport of Ayr. Tel: 01292 26382.
- 4) Mauchline and Ballochmyle A.C** Contact secretary Max Stobbs, Tel: 01290 420301.
- 5) Auchinleck A.C.** D/ts available from Mitchells Shop, Auchinleck between 15th March and 31st Oct, but like the main river

there are few grayling now in the Lugar Water tributary. Contact Sec. Billy Blackmore, Tel: 07979480690.

6) Catrine A.C. Winter access possible. Contact Mr. W. McKinnon, 44 Gordon St, Catrine, Tel: 07837890663.

7) Sorn A.C. Closed to fishing Oct to Jan. and on Saturdays. Otherwise, D/t from J. McMahan, 25 Main Street, Sorn.

8) Muirkirk A.C. D/t between 1st Dec to 14th March from Joe Timmins, 38 Hareshaw Crescent, Muirkirk, East Ayrshire, KA18 3PY Tel: 01290 661114.

River Clyde

(Tributaries: River Avon, River Gryffe)

After grayling were introduced to the Clyde in 1855 they prospered, and the river still has a good though fluctuating population. There have been reports of occasional very big fish mainly from the upper river, where there is now a large population of signal crayfish. The lower river, up to impassable falls at Lanark, has an increasingly important salmon run.

1) United Clyde A.P.A. has many miles of main river above Motherwell Bridge plus some tributaries. Season tickets are available for trout at a reasonable cost, with both winter day and season tickets available for grayling. Tickets available widely from tackle shops, tourist offices and from village shops in Abington and Crawford, and from Richies Fishing Tackle, Wishaw, Tel: 01698 375008. See www.ucapalt.d.co.uk/

2) Lamington and District A.I.A. has 9 miles of B.B. from Thankerton to Robertson. d/ts available for trout and grayling or grayling only available from 7th October to 31st January. Tickets available from

Bryden News- agents, 153 High St., Biggar, Tel: 01899 220069. No Sunday fishing. See: www.lamingtonfishing.co.uk/

3) Hozier A.C. issues d/ts for trout and grayling for about 6 miles of B.B. of river from Easter Sills Farm to Kirkfieldbank Bridge. Tickets available from the garden centre at Hyndford Bridge.

River Avon (Clyde tributary)

1) Avon A.C. has 14 miles of river between Larkhall and Strathaven for members only. No D/ts but annual membership available at a very reasonable cost to all comers from local shops in Strathaven and Stonehouse, also from Anglers Attic, Caledonian Road, Wishaw, tel: 01698 359757, and Clydestyle Fishing in Crossford, Tel: 01555 861223. See www.theavonanglingclub.co.uk

2) Upper Avon A.A. now issues permits for the upper stretches of the Avon. These are available from local shops in Strathaven, Stonehouse and Larkhall, also from Clydestyle Fishing Crossford 01555 861223 and Anglers' Rendezvous, Tel: 0141 778 6666. See www.upperavonangling.co.uk

River Gryffe (Clyde tributary)

1) Strathgryffe A.A. has several miles BB above Quarriers Rd bridge, including Green Water and other tributaries, but grayling tend to be limited to the bottom mile or so. Contact president Neil. Sinclair (GS member) on 0141 580 6723.

2) Bridge of Weir (River) Angling Club has 3 miles of B.B. of river from Quarriers

Bridge to Clydesdale Works. Br of Weir. Contact secretary George Inglis (GS member) Tel. 01505 703809. See www.bridgeofweirfishing.co.uk/

3) Abercorn A.A. has BB from approx Barrs Dam, Bridge of Weir, to Black Cart confluence, plus Locher Water; club also has grayling water on the White Cart. Contact Sandy Marshall, Hooked on Fishing, 82 Paisley Road, Renfrew, PA4 8EY Tel: 0141 589 3783. See also www.paisleyabercornanglingclub.co.nr

River Forth and Teith

(Tributaries: Almond, Esk, Water of Leith)

Grayling have in recent years 'appeared' in parts of the rivers Forth and Teith, and the lower reaches of the Allan Water at Stirling. They seem well established, but most owners and the salmon board (see www.fishforth.co.uk/) are reluctant to allow access for winter angling because of salmon poaching. However, Stirling Council provides a winter season ticket for its beats at Stirling and Callander. Contact Rab Brown on 01324 552849 for more information.

Rivers Forth and Teith

Stirling Council provides a grayling winter season ticket for its beats at Stirling (Forth) and Callander (Teith) via its fisheries officer on 01786 442932 (see: www.stirling.gov.uk and click F on the ribbon). Contact Rab Brown on 01324 552849 for more information.

River Almond

(Forth Tributary)

Grayling were introduced around the 1960s, but pollution prevented them

thriving. Water quality has since improved and a few fish have been caught in recent years in the the main river and some tributaries in the Livingston area. Further upstream, the fishing is in the hands of riparian owners who don't issue tickets, but tend not to object to people fishing.

1) West Lothian AA has 7 miles BB from Kirkton Weir in Livingston downstream to Clifton Aqueduct. D/ts available via tackle shops in Livingston, Bathgate, and Edinburgh (see www.westlothiananglingassociation.co.uk)

2) Cramond AC issues trout Dts to the lower Almond (where grayling are said to be absent).

See www.fishalmond.co.uk/index.php or contact the club via:

Calum McRoberts
Vice-Chairman, Cramond Angling Club
1/4 Turnhouse Farm Road
Edinburgh
Midlothian
EH12 0AT

River Esk

(Forth tributary)

At Dalkeith the North Esk and South Esk unite to form the main river which is a salmon and trout water. Grayling are thought to have been introduced in the 1960s and thrived before populations dwindled. Apart from a recent report of yearlings being caught at Dalkeith little is known of their current status.

Mike's Tackle, Portobello, Tel: 0131 657 3258, sells trout tickets for the river below Dalkeith. At one time D/ts were sold by bailiffs on the riverbank for fishing above the town.

Water of Leith (Forth tributary)

Grayling 'appeared' in the river around 1980 and seem to be well established.

City of Edinburgh Council issues free permits for trout and grayling thro' their Recreation Dept, tackle shops, and POs at Colinton, Juniper Green, Currie, and Balerno. Fly only above Slateford, but grayling occur mainly downstream from here and are caught within the city. No fishing October to March inclusive. See www.waterofleith.org.uk/fishing/

River Annan

Holds salmon, sea trout, some big wild brown trout and grayling, chub and other coarse fish. See www.annanfisheryboard.co.uk/ABOUTANNAN.html for more information.

1) Tickets can be pre-booked online for the following beats:- Annandale Estates, Applegarth, Brocklerigg, Cleuchhead, Hoddod, Jardine Hall, Kirkwood, Royal Four Towns, and St. Mungo's. Otherwise, by phoning 01573 470612 or 01576 407600 and using a credit or debit card, the fishing can be booked and tickets sent by post. For more information, pricing and availability see www.fishannan.co.uk

Tickets for Annandale Estates and for Applegarth can also be sourced by phoning 01576 470317 and A Dickson on 01683 300592 respectively. Applegarth is one of Upper Annandale AA's beats, see www.riverannan.co.uk/upper/index.htm

2) Everholm Park Beat - C&R tickets are available locally from the council office in Annan High Street.

3) Kirkwood Beat has quality grayling

and chub. Contact owner A. Steele, Kirkwood, Lockerbie, Tel: 01576 510200, who advertises winter fishing breaks. See www.kirkwood-lockerbie.co.uk/

River Kinnel (Annan tributary)

D/t for approx a mile LB available from farmer at Todhillmuir Farm, Templand.

River Nith

A fine salmon and sea trout river with brown trout and excellent grayling fishing. See

www.fishpal.com/Scotland/Nith/GraylingFishing.asp?dom=Nith

1) New Cumnock AA offers a cheap 12 month S/t, and will consider a grayling D/t on application, for their water at the top of the Nith. Contact Peter Bain on 01290 338480.

2) Upper Nithsdale AC has 14 miles BB plus tribs. Salmon D/ts 15th March to 30th Nov from Pollock & McLean, Solicitors, 59-61 High St., Sanquhar, DG4 6 DT tel 01659 50241. Winter grayling in Jan and Feb only. No Sunday fishing.

3) Dumfries & Galloway Council issues Dts for salmon and for trout for 4 miles BB through its housing dept at 81-85 Irish St., Dumfries, tel. 01387 253166, and the tourist office, allowing grayling to be targeted, but no winter fishing from 1st Dec to 25th Feb.

4) Barjarg Estate and Dalswinton Estate both offer good grayling fishing from 1st Dec to 31st March. Contact ghillie Dougie Smith, Brandyburn Farm, Auldgirith, DG2 0XG Tel: 07738015793.

5) Dumfries & Galloway AA control 3.5 miles of river holding specimen grayling.



Dts available to GS members at very reasonable cost, from 1st Dec to 24th Feb. Fly only and no wading. Tickets to be pre-booked from tackle shop, D. McMillan, 6 Friars Vennel, Dumfries, DG1 2LA, Tel: 01387 252075. Pres. R. Marshall 01387 261217.

6) Friars Carse Hotel, Auldgirth, Tel: 01387 740388 offers grayling fishing 1st Dec to end Feb, and has self catering cottages. See www.friarscarse.co.uk/

River Cairn (Nith tributary)

Dumfries & Galloway Council (see above) has 2.5 miles of water.

River Tay

(Tributaries: Rivers Earn, Isla. Lyon, Tummel)

A mighty river, the Tay can be intimidating. It has many grayling in places, especially in the middle reaches, though they are not always easy to find. They can be fished for at any time of the year, but April to May should be avoided when they are spawning. Beat rules tend to vary, bait fishing is generally not allowed in the trout season, and you must give way to salmon anglers.

See www.tayfishing.co.uk, www.fishingnet.com/ and www.anglingintayside.co.uk for more information.

1) Taymouth A.C. has 2 miles R.B. from Kenmore to R. Lyon. D/ts from Taymouth Castle Estates or Kenmore P.O. Tel: 01887 830200 (Trout season only).

2) Upper Tay (from R.Lyon to Logierait) - D/t from Wades newsagents in Aberfeldy,

tel 01887 820397, covers several beats on this 10 mile stretch, from 7 Oct to 14 March. In trout season Aberfeldy AC and other owners sell D/ts for individual beats – contact R M Stewart, 18 Rannoch Rd, Aberfeldy, PH15 2BU, Tel: 01887 829512. See

<http://fishingnet.com/angling/fish/salmon/aberfeldy-angling-club/>

3) Dunkeld & Birnam A.A. issues D/t for 5 miles RB; D/ts from Dunkeld Post Office. Fly only during trout season. The club also issues fly only trout/grayling D/ts for several miles downstream from Dunkeld where winter fishing is not allowed. See: www.dunkeldandbirnamangling.co.uk

4) Newtyle Beat 1 Km DB with LB better of the two. Contact ghillie Martin Ritchie, Tel: 07825 334427.

See [www.fishpal.com/Scotland/Tay/Newtyle\(Trout\)/?dom=Tay](http://www.fishpal.com/Scotland/Tay/Newtyle(Trout)/?dom=Tay)

5) Murthly Beat D/t from Nisa store, Perth Rd, Murthly. Tel: 01738 710061.

6) Ballathie House Hotel and Ballathie Estate has 1 mile RB mainly salmon fishing. Tel. 01250 883268. www.ballathiehousehotel.com/sporting/Fishing.html

7) Perth and District A.A. issues day tickets for 7 beats, between Logierait and Stobhall, via Malloch's, 259 Old High St., Perth tel. 01738 632316. Ballinluig PO tel. 01796 482220, and the village shop in Luncarty tel 01738 828362 also sell tickets for some beats. See www.perthanddistrictanglersassociation.com/

8) Stanley and District A.C. issue D/ts for six beats, each up to 3 miles, from Meikleour D/s to Luncarty, mainly R.B. D/ts available from Stanley P.O. Tel: 01738

828206 or Tayside Hotel on Sundays 01738 828249. Bait fishing allowed in the winter, but only fly, or worm on fly tackle in the trout season. Stanley Mills stretch is popular.

9) Stormont A.C. has 3 miles LB between Stormontfield and Scone. Applications for tickets to Scone Estate Office tel: 01738 552308. Pre-booking essential. Trotting considered on request. Wading discouraged because of salmon redds.

River Earn (Major Tay tributary)

Historically (ie BC - before cormorants) one of Scotland's best grayling rivers. Winter fishing season dates vary, but 15 Nov to 15 Jan on many beats. Ask before travelling.

1) Comrie AC. D/t for 1 Feb to 30 Sept only, from The Delicatessen, Drummond St, Comrie. Tel: 01764 670253.

2) Lochlane & Laggan. 2 miles mainly RB. D/t from Crieff Tourist Office Tel: 01764 652578, or fishery manager John Young, Tel: 01764 670361. No wading.

3) Crieff AC. D/ts for Upper Strowan, Braidhaugh, & Drummond Castle beats from Adam Boyd, Newsagent, King St, Crieff, Tel: 01764 653871, Braidhaugh caravan park, and the tourist office, High St, Crieff, Tel: 01764 652578. Fly only in summer. Winter grayling fishing restricted to Drummond beat from 15 Nov to 15 Jan, when trotting is allowed but wading is NOT permitted. Popular stretch. See www.crieffanglingclub.org.uk

4) Strageath (1/2 mile RB) Beat. D/t from F. Thomson, Ironmonger, 9 East High St, Crieff tel. 01764 652255. Limited number of rods, prior arrangement essential.

5) Innerpeffray and Colqhalzie Beats. Limited access. Apply in writing saying

you are a GS member to CD Lowson, 11 St. Bean Court, Auchterarder, PH3 1QP

6) Kinkell Bridge. D/t for 2 miles BB, 15 Nov to 15 Jan, from ghillie Sandy McIntosh Tel: 01738 730271. Heavily fished, but prolific beat. Phone in advance. Summer D/t sometimes available. No sweetcorn or ground-baiting.

See www.kinkellfishings.co.uk

7) Auchterarder AC (Denfield Beat). ½ mile RB, D/t from Auchterarder Motors Tel: 01764 662136. Can be good.

8) Upper Aberuthven. ¾ mile RB. D/t from E Haggart, Baillielands Farm. Tel: 01764 662609 for availability.

9) Lower Aberuthven. ¾ mile RB. D/t from J Haggart, Haugh of Aberuthven farm, Tel: 01738 730206.

10) Trinity Gask. 3 miles LB. D/t from the Kinkell ghillie. Prior booking essential. See www.trinitygask.co.uk/

11) Gask Estate. 1 mile LB. D/t from John McCallum's (GS member) butchers shop, at 201 High Street, Auchterarder Tel: 01764 662128.

12) Dunning AC. 1.5 miles RB at Dalreoch Bridge. D/t 1 Nov to 31 Jan from Marshall Garden Centre tel. 01764 684600, or contact G Carstairs, 4 Tron Square, Dunning, Tel: 01764 684510.

13) Broomhill. ½ mile RB. Winter grayling D/t from V G Store Dunning, Tel: 01764 684247 or from GS Drummond, Tel: 07785 594098.

14) Dupplin Estates Office, Tel: 01738 622757, issues winter D/t & S/t (15 Nov to 15 Jan) via Malloch's tackle shop in Perth, Tel: 01738 632316. Also /Dt in trout season for each of two stretches, Wester Cairnie, (1.5 miles LB), and Forteviot/Aberdalgie, (3 miles RB and 2 miles LB).

15) Kirkton of Mailer. ¾ mile LB. D/t from Mr McGregor Tel: 01738 812210.

16) Freelands. Tel: F Angus on 01738 812268. Tidal and can be difficult.

River Isla (Tay tributary)

1) Strathmore Angling Improvement Assoc. has extensive fishing on the Isla, and its tributaries Dean Water and Kerbet Water. No Dt/s, but a cheap annual ticket which serves for both trout and grayling is available from tackle shops in Dundee, Forfar, and Blairgowrie. Contact Sec: G McIntosh 4 Douglas Terrace, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 1EA, Tel: 01382 737938.

River Ericht (Isla tributary)

Winter fishing below Blairgowrie is available to GS members through Kate Fleming tackle in Blairgowrie. Tel: shop at 01250 873990. Blairgowrie AC also issues some tickets. See www.brdaa.co.uk

River Lyon (Tay tributary)

Good trout, with a few grayling in the lower reaches.

1) Tirnie Beat, 1 mile LB from Keltneyburn to River Tay. D/t from Highland Safaris, tel 01887 820071.

River Tummel (Major Tay tributary)

Another big river with the lower reaches (where the grayling live) controlled by the dam that impounds Loch Faskally. It contains some bruisers.

Pitlochry A.C issues Dt, weekly tickets or

whole year tickets for 4 miles BB below Pitlochry, either directly from the club's website, or with the help of its resellers Scotland's Hotel and Dunkeld Post Office. Printed paper tickets for the AC stretch of the Tummel are also available from Pitlochry and Dunkeld Tourist Information Centres, and from the tourist office and Ballinluig service station. See www.pitlochryanglingclub.com

River Tweed (Tributaries: River Eden, River Teviot, River Till)

A renowned salmon river with some excellent grayling fishing that is becoming more available as appreciation of 'The Lady' grows. Sunday fishing is, however, largely barred, and most beats have restrictions on bait fishing, so check before you fish.

For information on most club waters see www.fishpal.com/Scotland/Tweed/TroutClubs.asp?dom=Tweed

1) Coldstream & District AA has some good Tweed fishing. D/ts from Moffats Newsagent, Coldstream, Tel: 01890 882235 and the PO in Cornhill on Tweed. Contact M. Young, Green Acres, Sprouston, Kelso, Tel: 01573 226411.

See www.mediamice.net/CDA

2) Kelso & District AA has 8 miles on Tweed and Teviot. D/ts from local outlets including Forrest & Sons, 40 The Square, Tel: 01573 2246878, and Tweedside Tackle, 36/38 Bridge St. Tel: 01573 225306. Tel: also 01835 850380.

3) Ladykirk & Norham AA has 2 miles BB from Norham Bridge to Horndean Burn. D/ts from Victoria Hotel tel. 01289 382437, Mace Shop, Masons Arms Hotel and others. Contact J Cameron on 01289 382481.

4) Melrose & District AA has 2 miles on Tweed. Season from 1st Aug to 1st March. D/ts from Croall Bryson Garage, Melrose, Tel: 01896 822400. Contact T McLeish, Planetree Cottage, Newstead, Melrose, Tel: 01896 822232.

5) Peebleshire Trout Fishing Assoc. has over twenty miles of Tweed, though some stretches are closed in the winter grayling season (1st Jan to 31st March). Fly only, no bait fishing. D/ts and S/ts (1st Jan to 30 Sept) available from outlets in Peebles and villages in the area, and tackle shops in Edinburgh. Contact Sec P Reith, St. Fillans Wells Brae, Innerleithen, Tel: 01896 830285. See also www.peebleshiretroutfishing.co.uk/

6) St Boswells & Newtown Districts AA provide D/ts for the periods 1st Dec to 31st Jan and 15th June to 30th Sept via Borders Gun Room, Main Street, St Boswells, tel: 01835 822844 and other outlets. Contact W Rodger, Brunty Burn, Ancrum, TD8 6TZ, Tel: 01835 830714. See also <http://www.stboswellsangling.org.uk/index.htm> for more information.

7) Gala AA opened its water on Tweed for winter grayling, Dec and Jan, in 2008. See fishpal website (above). Contact Sec. S Gzybowski on 07753 624664.

River Leader (Tweed tributary)

1) Earlston AA has the lower five miles BB of this productive small river. Season from 1st Jan to 30 Sept. Tickets from the Earlston service station, but no D/ts on Saturdays. Contact J MacLennan Tel: 01896 849162. See www.crownflyfishers.co.uk/Earlston.htm

River Teviot (Tweed tributary)

Within recent years the Teviot has gained a huge reputation for its big grayling.

1) Kelso AA has several miles around Roxburgh. See details under River Tweed above.

2) Hawick AA has much good fishing on Tweed and several of its tribs. D/ts from the PO, Sandbed, Hawick, TD9 0HE, and Shaws Newsagent, Canongate, Jedburgh, TD8 6AJ, tel. 01835 863245. Contact Sec. R, 6 Sandbed, Hawick, Tel: 01450 372266.

3) Jedforest AA has several miles of water. Winter grayling season from 1st Nov to 21st March. D/ts from Shaws Newsagent, Canongate, and Taylor's Newsagent, High St. Jedburgh, Mikes Tackle Shop in Edinburgh, and they can also be booked online via the fishpal website. See also www.btinternet.com/~jedforestaa/

River Till (Tweed tributary)

1) Millfield, (Northumberland). Several beats available for the visiting angler around Ford. Permits from both Millfield and Ford Pos, and Ford & Ethal estates office, Tel: 01890 820224. No Sunday fishing.

2) Castle Heaton and Shellacres. Although this is mainly a migratory fish water permits to fish for grayling are available from Edwin Thompson, 44/48 Hide Hill, Berwick, Tel: 01289 304432 or 01896 751300 (office). Also from 5 Shellacres Cottages, Cornhill on Tweed, Tel: 01289 382608.

Please be aware that we have been told

that permission to fish Shellacres beat has been withdrawn.

3) Tiptoe Farm has D/ts for 1 mile of water and has self catering cottages. Tel. Lucy Carroll on 01890 882177, or see www.till-fishing.co.uk

USEFUL ORGANISATIONS IN SCOTLAND

National Bodies

Marine Scotland

Aquaculture and Freshwater Fisheries
Area 1 B North
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
Tel: 08457 741741
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Salmon-Trout-Coarse
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/science
(formerly Fisheries Research Services)

Rivers and Fisheries Trusts of Scotland

RAFTS, CBC House
24 Canning Street
Edinburgh EH3 8EG
Tel: 0131 272 2797
www.rafts.org.uk

Scottish Anglers National Association

The Pier, Loch Leven
Kinross KY13 8UF
Tel: 01577 861116
www.sana.org

Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Website www.sepa.org.uk/water.aspx
includes a useful river levels facility

Scottish Federation for Coarse Angling

www.sfca.co.uk

Tourist Information

VisitScotland HQ
Ocean Point One
94 Ocean Drive
Edinburgh, EH6 6JH
Tel: 0131 472 2222

Local visitor information centre details can be found at www.visitscotland.org

fishpal.com sells an increasing number of grayling tickets and gives very useful displays of SEPA height information that complement those on SEPA's own website very well – they are corrected so that they directly display heights above summer level, and daily heights for the full calendar year are displayed. Only certain of the rivers are on fishpal.

ENGLAND

England is the part of the British Isles, which seems to have the greatest diversity of rivers with thriving populations of grayling. It has also a North South divide, with the free stone spate rivers with their head-waters high in the northern hills and Pennines, tumbling their way towards either the Irish or North Seas. In the South however we have chalk streams with their high pH, lush rafts of water plant-life and their relentless steady flow bubbling up from the aquifers of the chalk downs. There are inevitably exceptions that prove the rule; the most famous of these is Driffield Beck, in East Yorkshire, which is the most northerly true chalk stream in England, drawing its waters from the Yorkshire Wolds.

THE NORTH WEST

The river in this part of England flow mainly West from their head waters high in the Pennine fells to the Irish Sea. These rivers are known for their very good Salmon, Sea Trout and wild Brown Trout fishing. Some of these rivers are also are known for their excellent Grayling fishing. Unfortunately in Lancashire, the home county of Pritt, day ticket waters are very limited, but never the less well worth investigating.

CUMBRIA

Grayling Society Area 10

River Eden

(Tributary: River Irthing)

1) Carlisle A.A. has 4 miles of fishing. Grayling season 15th Oct to 14th Jan. D/ts and information through local tackle shops or contact Sec. T. A. Jones, 10 Jackson St, Carlisle, CA12BD Tel: 01228 44195.

2) Wetheral permits for the Moorhouse or Yorkshire Fly Fisher's waters are available free from Environment Agency, Ghyll Mount, Gillan Way Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9BP tel. 01768 865606. D/ts limited to 20 per day.

3) Warwick Hall Estate has an excellent 2 mile stretch of the lower Eden. D/ts available from the keeper, Charlie Alderson, Tel: 01228 562249. No fishing after Jan. BOOK IN ADVANCE, 4 RODS ONLY.

4) Lazonby Manor (Garden of Eden) has a beautiful stretch of water with winter grayling fishing. D/ts from Kim Tel: 01768 808229 or water bailiff Edwin Tel: 01228 560122.

5) Lazonby Parish have a section of river where day and weekly permits are available. W/ts and D/ts available during shop hours from Post Office, Tel: 01768 898210.

6) Eden Lacy. 1 mile of river Eden. For D/ts and details contact Mr. Victor Gubbin, Tel: 01768 898316.

7) Kings Arms Hotel has fishing rights on river for trout and grayling. For details of D/ts contact Andy Evans, Tel: 01768 361211.

8) Hornby Hall Hotel has fishing rights on river for trout and grayling, for details contact Mr. Sanders, Tel: 01768 891114.

9) Penrith A.A. has water on the upper Eden. For further details of season tickets contact Andy Dickson Tel: 01768 88294.

10) Appleby A.A. issue D/ts during trout season, but may consider winter grayling permits. Contact Mr. H. Pigneys, Tel: 01768 351240.

11) Kirby Stephen A.A. grayling stocks are increasing and well worth a try. For information, W/ts and D/ts from Sec Mr. J. Garner. Tel. 017683 51552 or Mr. Alderson, Tel: 01768 371337 (evenings).

River Irthing

1) Warwick Hall Estate has section of the lower river. For details and D/ts see River Eden.

2) Netherfield Farm has a short stretch of river. For D/ts contact Mr Elwen, Netherfield Farm, Ruleholme, Irthington. Tel: 01228 573245.

LANCASHIRE

Grayling Society Area 10

River Ribble

(Tributary: River Hodder)

1) Environment Agency has 1.5 miles L.B. from Mitton Bridge to Calderfoot. D/ts available from Mitton Hall Farm, Mitton Rd, Mitton, Whalley, BB7 9QP Tel: 01254 826544.

River Hodder



1) Whitewell. The Inn at Whitewell has 6 miles mainly D.B. from Burholme Bridge to below Doeford Bridge. D/ts from Mr R. Bowman, The Inn at Whitewell Forest of Bowland Clitheroe BB7 3AT. Tel: 01200 448222. D/ts for hotel guests only.

2) The Jam Pot. 2miles of water on the upper Hodder, in the Slaidburn area. D/ts

from Central Stores and Post Office, Slaidburn, Tel: 01200 446268. (www.slaidburn.org.uk)

THE NORTH EAST

The north of this region is noted more for its Salmon, Sea Trout and wild Brown Trout waters, but nevertheless has some impressive Grayling fishing. Rivers like the Tyne, Tees and Wear tumble steeply from their headwaters high in the rugged northern Pennines to become mighty rivers flowing to the East Coast and the North Sea.

NORTHUMBRIA AND DURHAM

Grayling Society Area 11

River Tees

1) Piercebridge: Permits and information for Raby Estates water can be obtained from Estates Office, Staindrop, Darlington DL2 3NF Tel: 01833 660207.

2) The following clubs and association can be approached for fishing on the Tees.

Darlington Anglers Club.

www.darlingtonanglersclub.co.uk

Stockton Anglers Club.

www.stocktonangling.co.uk

Barnard Castle Angling Club

for day and weekly tickets contact:

Tourist Information Centre

Tel: 01833 690909

Darlington Brown Trout Angling Association.

Contact: G.Coulson, 5, Grange Ave., Hurworth Place, Darlington.

River Tyne

(Tributary: River Derwent)

River Derwent

(County Durham)

1) Derwent A.A. has 15 miles of water on the Derwent. For information about water and D/ts contact Membership Sec. Mr. Ian Colbourne, 47, Braiemore Court, Consett, County Durham, DH8 8TZ. Tel: 01207 591454. Open membership, only a few day ticket visits to the water will pay for membership!!

River Wear

1) Grange A.C. has a section of river at Kepier Woods. Permits and information from Belmont Pets, Blue House Buildings,

Sunderland, and K9 Fishing Tackle and Guns Sunderland, Tel: 01915 100005.

2) Willington. Willington and District A.C. has a section of river from Sunnybrow to Page Bank. Permits and information from Bonds Pet Shop, Tel: 01388746273.

YORKSHIRE

North, West and East: Grayling Society Area 9

South: Grayling Society Area 8

For centuries Yorkshire has been the traditional home of the Grayling. Over the years population numbers in some waters have fluctuated drastically. Archive records show restocking programmes for Grayling from river to river as far back as the late



1800's. Today many riparian owners, clubs, associations, etc together with the Environment Agency are working hard to restore and preserve stocks of the Grayling.

Most of the rivers in Yorkshire as with other northern rivers have their headwaters high in the Pennines and flow south east to the Humber and the North Sea. There are three notable exceptions, the Esk which flows east from its source on the North Yorkshire Moors, the Derwent which flows south from its headwaters on the North Yorkshire moors. Lastly the Hull, whose headwaters rise in the east Yorkshire Wolds and contain the most northerly chalk- stream. The availability of day tickets in this region is sporadic, but some excellent fishing can be found.

River Aire

1) Skipton. Skipton A.C. has water on the Aire and on Whinny Gill. Information on membership and subs on the website: Note; Grayling have in this area suffered a decline in numbers, but recent reports give the indication of an increase in numbers. www.skiptonangling.co.uk

2) Cononley and Skipton. Bradford City A.A. has a number of waters in the area that hold grayling. Day tickets are not issued, but annual membership is open at very reasonable prices. Although Cononley has been seen as a coarse-fishing water, increasing water quality has favoured Trout and Grayling. The stretch at Broughton and Gargrave is solely trout and grayling water.

Maps and information on the BCAC website: www.bradfordcityaa.co.uk

Alternatively, contact:

Jim Munden, Membership Secretary
Bradford City Angling Association
Tel: 0113 267 3478. Mob: 07940 814431.

3) Keithly. Keithly A.C. has considerable waters in the area, but they are predominantly coarse waters with trout and grayling. Permits from K.L. Tackle, 127 North Street, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 3AD. More information on the club's website: www.keighleyanglingclub.co.uk

River Calder (Tributary: Colne)

1) Slaithwaite and District A.C. have water on the river, no day tickets but cost of membership reasonable. For details contact Chris Robert Fishing Tackle, 22 Chapel Hill, Huddersfield, Tel: 01484 545032.

2) Huddersfield. Free public access in the town area. Not so pleasant surroundings but good grayling are to be had. Contact Chris Roberts 01484 545032.

River Derwent (Tributaries: Rye and Scalby Beck) (Tributaries of Rye: Dove, Seven, Pickering Beck and Costa Beck)

Day ticket waters on the Derwent are a little thin on the ground, but several clubs and associations have membership prices at a reasonable cost and therefore well worth investigating.

Scalby Beck

1) Scalby Beck AC has the fishing from Scalby Mills to approx. one mile above Scalby village. Grayling Season 16/6 14/3. Although grayling are not in the numbers they used to be the water is worth a try. For details and permits contact Mr. Dove Tel: 01723 378824.



River Don

No day ticket waters but some clubs are open to new members at a reasonable cost.

1) Samuel Fox Angling Club has wasters at Stocksbridge, and is open to applicants not employed by British Steel. For details contact Mr. R. Preston, Tel: 01142 883728.

River Esk

A beautiful little river, with only a small head of grayling, but, worth trying.

For details of day tickets contact Angling Supplies, 68 Hagersgate, Whitby.

1) Danby and District AC have 7 miles of the Esk from Castleton to Grt. Fryup beck. Grayling fishing to the end of September only. For permits and information contact Mr. F. Farrow, Tel. 01287 660387.

River Hull

(Tributary: Driffield Beck)

1) Mulbery Whin Fly Fishery, Skerne, Driffield have approx. one mile of water on the most northerly true chalk stream. For details contact Brian or Andrew Dixon on 01377 249273.

River Nidd

1) Nidderdale AC have water around Pateley Bridge, permits may be obtained from local post office, or Tel: 01423 711960.

2) Birstwith. Mr. S Holmes has 1 mile of single bank, fly only, 3 rods only and all fish to be returned. For permits Tel: 01423 772534.

3) Harrogate A.A. has several miles of fishing on the river from Little Ribston downstream. No D/ts are available but for membership enquiries contact Mr. B. Wheeler Tel. 01423 323945.

River Swale

1) Richmond and District AC have 14 miles of river bank in the Richmond area. For details and permits from local tackle shops.

2) Leeds and District ASA has 1.5 miles of water through Old Catterick Village. Dt's available from café next to Angel Hotel in Catterick or from Bailiff on fishing complex.

River Ure

(Tributary: River Laver)

There is very good fishing to be had by joining some of the local clubs and Associations who have water on the River Ure, even for the traveling rod the cost of joining could be well worth while.

1) Hawes and High Abbotside AA have water around Haws. Grayling in this area are not numerous but it is well worth the try. For details and permits contact Three Peaks Ltd, Hawes. Tel: 01969 667443.

2) Wensleydale AA have water above and below Bainbridge. As with Hawes grayling are not numerous but can be large when found. Fly and worm only. Permits and information can be obtained from The Rose and Crown, Bainbridge. Tel: 01969 650225.

3) Aysgarth. The Palmer Flatts Hotel has 440 yards of bank. For information and permits contact the hotel on 01969 663228.

4) Bradford City AA has four miles of fishing to the west of Aysgarth and a short stretch at Worton Bridge, upstream. No day tickets are sold. Membership application forms and full details of the club can be found on the website at www.bradfordcityaa.co.uk Alternatively, contact Jim Munden, Membership Secretary Bradford City AA. Tel: 0113 267 3478.

5) Masham AC has 2.5–3 miles of excellent fly only water around Masham. Although there are no day tickets, the club does have a limited number of grayling season tickets (1st Oct – 28th Feb). Apply to the keeper, Mr A. Proud. Tel: 01765 689361.

6) Ripon Piscatorial Association have 6 miles of water in the Ripon area, the top two miles being the better for grayling. For details and permits contact Ripon Angling Centre Tel: 01765 604666.

River Laver

This small river is predominantly a trout water, but does hold nice grayling.

1) Ripon Piscatorial Association issue permits for the water. Permits available from Ripon Angling Centre, Tel: 01765 604666. Tickets available now from Bensons, Ironmongers, The Old Market Place Ripon, Tel: 01765 602085. Bensons have a fishing section, selling a good selection of flies and other tackle. The proprietor is an angler and can point visitors in the right direction.

River Wharfe

There are several clubs who have grayling water on the river but do not issue day tickets. They do have membership at a reasonable cost. These clubs are :

Bradford No.1:

www.bradfordno1.com/

Bradford City AA:

www.bradfordcityaa.co.uk

Keighley AC:

www.keighleyanglingclub.co.uk

1) Appletreewick, Barden and Burnsall AC has several miles of river from Grassington downstream to Barden

Bridge. Permits and information from The Red Lion at Burnsall or from Mr. H. Ratcliffe Tel. 01756 378824. Grayling season from 1 st of Nov to 31 st Jan.

2) Bolton Abbey Estate has 4 miles of double bank fishing from Strid Wood down to below Bolton Bridge. Grayling season from 1st Oct to 31st Dec, fly only and all fish to be returned. Permits from Estate Office, Tel.: 01756 710227.

3) Addingham AA have a short length of water close to Lobwood Pumping Station. Fly or Bait. Permits from Addingham Post Office.

4) Bradford City AA has fishing at Addingham. No day tickets sold. Same contact details as for R.Ure above.

5) Ilkley AA control water from New Brook St Bridge, Ilkley to the stepping stones at Ben Rhydding. Permits from the Tourist Information, Ilkley, Tel: 01943 602319 or Gee Tee Angling Supplies, Silsden, Tel: 01535 655555, or Guiseley Angling Centre, Guiseley, Tel: 01943 879938.

6) Leeds and District ASA have a long length of the river at Pool in Wharfedale, from above Pool Bridge down stream to below Arthington. Any method no night fishing. Permits from Pool Bridge Service Station, Tel: 0113 202 7910 or Leeds and Dist. ASA Tel: 0113 264 5500.

7) The Grantham Angling Association has some grayling fishing, but does not issue day tickets. Information and membership details from:

Grantham Angling Association Fly Fishing Section

http://gaaffs.org/about_us.html

Hon Sec Paul Kitson,

9 Sunningdale Grantham NG31 9PF
01476 575224

PEAK DISTRICT

DERBYSHIRE AND STAFFORDSHIRE

Grayling Society Areas 8 and 5

By Brian L. Clarke

The waters of Isaak Walton fame. Derbyshire in the north has the Dark Peak area, peat moorland laying on millstone Grit, with the River Derwent and its tributary the River Noe. Further south, the White Peak, lush grassland with River like the Dove, Manifold and the Wye with its tributary the Lathkill bubbling up from deep underground in the limestone. There are many other small streams, brooks and becks holding grayling, mainly in the south of the Peaks area. All of these waters flow into either the River Dove or Derwent

systems, into the River Trent, then in to the Humber and the North Sea.

Derbyshire's grayling waters unfortunately are in an area where long established club and fishing groups own or lease the fishing, membership fees can be high and waiting lists can be long, recently Staffordshire's River Churnett has joined the list of rivers to produce good grayling joining the Dove above Utoxeter.

River Derwent

1) Matlock A.C. has bait fishing through Matlock Bath. As there is close public access fly fishing is not permitted. Permits available from Bob Price Newsagent, Matlock Bath. Tel: 01629 582560. **(COARSE SEASON ONLY)**

2) The Derwent Hotel has a short but well worth fishing section of water



upstream of the road bridge at Whatstandwell. D/ts from hotel, Tel: 01433 651395.

3) Derby Railway A.C. has water on the Derwent below Whatstandwell. Although it does not give D/ts this club is well worth considering joining, even for none locals. For membership details see club listings or website www.drac.org.uk

4) The Square and Compasses at Darley Dale, upstream of Matlock, has a short (approx. 300 yd) stretch of mixed fishing, suitable for trotting, but fishable with fly. Tel: 01629 733255 for ticket information.

River Dove

(Tributaries: River Churnett, Sutton Brook)

This beautiful little river marks the boundary for some considerable distance, Derbyshire and Staffordshire and therefore can be claimed by both counties as their river.

1) The Charles Cotton Hotel, Hartington, has a short section of the south bank of the Dove. The water is heavily treed but well worth a try. For permits Tel: 01298 84229

2) Izaak Walton Hotel, Dovedale, Ashbourne, has 2 miles of S/B fishing on this most picturesque section of river. Fishing reserved for hotel guests only, Fly only. Tel: 01335 350555

3) Derby Railway A.C. has several stretches of water on the river, all worth trying. See Derwent for details.

4) Leek and District A.C. has water on the Dove upstream of Ilam. No D/ts are issued by the club but, it is a club worth joining. For details contact: Mr Graham Stevens, 5 St Marys Crescent, East Leake, Loughborough. Mob: 07882147863.

The Peak Passport scheme allows access to beats on the rivers Dove, Manifold. Hamps and Sence using a pre-pay token system. See the website at: www.peakpassport.co.uk/ Information also from Andy Heath on 07896 344448.

Sutton Brook

1) Derby Railway A.C. has water on the brook, a beautiful little stream Nr. Sutton on the Hill. For details see Derwent.

River Wye

1) Haddon Estates. Fishing on the Wye through Bakewell to Rowsley. There are a limited number of day tickets for the trout season and fly fishing only. Grayling fishing through the winter is by syndicate members only. For details of all the fishing contact the River Keeper, Mr Warren Slaine, Tel: 01629 636255.

2) Accommodation and fishing can be arranged through the Peacock Hotel at Rowsley. www.thepeacockatrowsley.com

SOUTHERN COUNTIES

Grayling Society Area 2

By Steve Skuce and Greg Payne

Grayling can flourish in the clear waters of the southern chalk-streams. Yet for years they have been regarded by some riparian owners and river keepers as vermin that competed with the brown trout population and needed to be eradicated. Thankfully a more enlightened attitude is gradually prevailing and on many stretches of the chalk-streams grayling are now being given the respect they deserve. Wholesale electro-fishing to remove the grayling is becoming a thing of the past and whilst there is still some way to go, the grayling

is increasingly being seen as a valuable and truly wild sporting fish.

BERKSHIRE

River Kennet

1) Barton Court Fishery, Kintbury has 3 miles of main river and carriers limited to 10 rods per day from 10th Oct to 14th March. Permits from Bob Bailey, Tel. 01488 658905.

HAMPSHIRE

River Test

(Tributary: River Dever)

1) Wherwell Estate Wherwell has 11 beats on several miles of the Test and carriers. Upstream dry fly or nymph, with barbless or debarbed hooks. Grayling season 11th Oct to 12th March. For bookings Tel: Estate Office 01264 860242 or River Keeper Robbie 07771845841.

2) Fullerton Fishery has 900 m of river north of Stockbridge near the Mayfly public house/restaurant. The grayling season is from 1st October to 31st December. Single barbless or debarbed flies and all fish to be carefully returned. Prior bookings only (for 4 rods maximum) contact Mr. Tom Liddell on 01264 860221.

3) R.Test at Romsey. For charges and fishing locations, contact Test Valley Borough Council at 01794 527700.

4) Timsbury. 1.5 miles of main river and 1 mile of carriers. Fly or bait from 1st October to 15th March. For bookings and further information contact Heidi Dear, Tel: 01264 365165 or 07759 331385.

River Anton

1) Fullerton Fishery has 900 m of fishing on the river, max 4 rods only. For details see River Test.

River Dever

1) Bransbury Mill Fishery, Barton Stacey, has 0.75 miles of water with good tree cover and good stocks of grayling. Fishing for GRAYLING SOCIETY MEMBERS ONLY from 1st October to 7th November (when trout start to spawn) for details and permits contact Chris de Cani, Tel: 01962 760442.

River Itchen

1) Lower Itchen Fishery, Southampton. Bookings and information from 02380 472672 (Keeper), or 02380 814389 (Office).

WILTSHIRE

Avon

1) Upavon. Peter Prince has 2/3 of a mile of the upper Avon, a short but prolific section of river. He issues Full Season permits (trout and grayling seasons) Grayling Season permits, Oct to Feb, and D/ts. All D/ts to be pre-booked, Fly only before Oct after which bait may be used. Wading is advised though bank fishing is possible. For permits and details Tel: Peter Prince 01980 630008 or 07770 92544.

2) Salisbury and District A.C. issue D/ts for a limited number of their waters on the Avon. For details of available waters and permits contact Mrs J. Elliot, Tel: 01980 622828.

3) Avon Springs Fishery Durrington has 1 mile of single bank fishing on the Avon,



season 1st of October to 15th of March, fly only and 4 rods per day. For further details and permits Tel: Barrie Bowden 01980 653 557 or 07774 801 401.

River Wylfe

1) Langford Lakes Nature Reserve. 0.5 mile, single bank, at Steeple Langford. Contact the Reserve Office on 01722 792011, or at www.wiltshirewildlife.org

Agents:

Grayling fishing is available through the following agents, but expect to pay more:

River Wylfe:

Steeple Langford. Book through Mark Shuldham, Tel: 07798 730974.

River Dever:

Fishing Breaks, Tel: 01263 781988.

Rivers Itchen, Test and carriers:

The Rod Box, Tel: 01962 883600.

R.Anton:

Roxton Field Sports, Tel: 01488 689701.

River Test:

Orvis, Tel: 01264 349519.

R's Test and Itchen:

Famous Fishing, Tel: 01722 716050.

FREE FISHING!!

1) R. Itchen, Winchester: The river proper and the Navigation. Details on 01962 840500.

2) The Swan at Stoford has a very short section of water on the Wylfe for guests only. Although very short, for the angler visiting the area it is worth a cast. Fly only, and for details Tel: The Swan 01722 790236.

SOUTH WEST

Grayling Society Guide Area 1
by Paul Frid

CORNWALL

River Tamar & Tributaries

The Tamar and tributaries are typical moorland streams, running over a mixture of gravel, rocky and clay riverbed, the rivers are rain fed and subject to spates.

There are a number of fly only beats on the river Tamar available via the West Country Angling Passport. www.angling2000.org.uk

Middle Tamar Beats

Ottery/Tamar Beat

Kensey/Tamar Beat

Carey/Tamar Beat

Fishing cost between 2-4 tokens @ £2.50 per token.

The Arundel Arms Hotel at Lifton also has some grayling fishing permits available, contact David Pilkington at the hotel on 01566 784666.

DEVON

River Exe

(See Also Somerset)

The River Exe is a moorland stream which starts its life in Exmoor Country Park, Somerset and empties into the sea at Exmouth, Devon.

Contact Lance Nicholson Tackle in Dulverton Somerset for permits that become available on the fish Exe scheme fishing around Tiverton. Tel: 01398 323409.

DORSET

River Frome

Although the River Frome is a chalk stream, all the grayling fishing is below Dorchester town, here the river widens and the banks are quite steep sided, therefore the river is prone to flooding and takes on the appearance of a spate river and care must be taken in high water. Most of the lower reaches are suitable for fly fishing, but bait fishing is the most common method practiced during the winter months.

Dorchester Fishing Club has approx 7 miles on the River Frome, day tickets are available for fly fishing on a limited number of days during the trout season only at £50 each, check the web-site for dates available. www.grhe.co.uk

The Hon Secretary is :

Richard Miller

The Lilacs

37 Icen Way

Dorchester

Dorset, DT1 1ET

e-mail: Richard@grhe.co.uk

There is a healthy waiting list for membership of around 12 years.

Details on a new day ticket water just available on the River Frome can be found at:

http://www.riverworks.co.uk/?page_id=1629/

1) Dorchester & District Angling Society

has 2 sections of the River Frome at Wool, nr Wareham, with grayling fishing from 1st November until the last day of February. They also other coarse fisheries, and membership is available at £50 per year. www.d.das.com

2) East Burton Estate grayling permits for fishing at Wool from 1st November until the last day of February. Contact Harry Warr 01929 462270.

3) Purbeck Angling (tackle shop) in Wareham 01929 550770 will advise of the Free fishing available on the tidal stretch around Wareham harbour, there are very few grayling, and some good coarse fishing including excellent roach & dace.



4) Christchurch Angling Club has grayling fishing on the Frome at Tinctleton. Salmon & trout fishing is available on the Hampshire Avon, they also have some of the south's best coarse fishing on the Hampshire Avon & Stour. Membership is available at £130 per year. www.christchurchac.org.uk

SOMERSET

River Exe

(See also Devon and Haddeo (Tributary))

The River Exe is a moorland stream which starts its life in Exmoor Country Park, Somerset and empties into the sea some 50 miles away at Exmouth, Devon.

1) Dulverton Angling Society has some nice beats on the Exe and Haddeo for fly fishing only for grayling with fish to over 2lb available for members at £25 per year. Contact Lance Nicholson Tackle in Dulverton, Somerset for membership. 01398 323409.

River Tone

The River Tone is a rain fed river running over gravel, rocky and clay riverbed.

Around Taunton town and below, the river is wide and deep and subject to heavy flooding. The tone has healthy numbers of grayling and coarse fish, some free fishing is available.

Taunton town centre approx 1 mile of free fishing from French weir to Firepool weir, although fly fishing is possible in places, the water is better suited for winter trotting.

1) Taunton Angling Association has approx 6 miles of coarse fishing the lower Tone from Firepool Weir to Newbrige near North Curry, with grayling available.

Membership at £34.50 per year, also day tickets at £5.50 www.taunton-angling.co.uk Contact Taunton Angling Centre for fishing advice, bait and Taunton AA permits. Tel: 01823 282518

2) Taunton Fly-fishing Club has a number of beats on the River Tone above Taunton, although there is currently an approx 5 year waiting list for membership. www.tauntonflyfishing.co.uk

USEFUL ORGANISATIONS IN ENGLAND

National Bodies

The Angling Trust

www.anglingtrust.net

Environment Agency

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Wild Trout Trust

www.wildtrout.org

Natural England

www.naturalengland.org.uk

Salmon and Trout Association

Fishmongers Hall,
London Bridge,
London, EC4R 9EL
www.salmon-trout.org

National Federation of Anglers

This organization is now part of The Angling Trust (see above).

Angling Foundation
Stoneleigh Park Pavilion,
National Agricultural Centre,
Stoneleigh,
Warwickshire
Tel. 01203 414999
Fax. 01203 414990
www.anglingfoundation.co.uk

Trout & Grayling fishing opportunities in **WALES AND THE BORDERS**

(Grayling Areas 4,6,14)

By Roger Smith and Louis Noble)

There is some excellent trout & grayling fishing to be found in Wales, from the Dee in the north to the Taff and Rhymney in the south.

Mid Wales has the upper reaches of the Severn together with its many tributaries, the most important of which is the Vymwy.

In the mid to south area we have the Wye and tributaries and finally, in the south we have the Taff and Rhymney.

Access is variable with plenty of day ticket water but for others it is necessary to join the local clubs and associations.

Here is some information which will enable you to fish for our wonderful Welsh sports fish, broken down by catchments areas.

NORTH WALES

River Dee

The lower reaches of the River Dee are predominantly mixed fishing and the first notable wild trout and grayling fishing opportunities are on the first major tributary, the River Alyn.

1) Warrington Anglers Association has, among many other river beats, two stretches on the Alyn. Refer to website for season ticket details: www.warrington-anglers.org.uk

2) Rossett & Gresford Flyfishers' beats have increasing stocks of trout and grayling above Rossett. Membership only, refer to website: www.rossett-flyfishers.co.uk

Returning to the main River Dee the next opportunities are:

3) Bangor on Dee Salmon Anglers Association has some excellent wild trout and grayling fishing with day tickets available from Middle Shop, Royal Oak or Buck Hotel in the village. Refer to website also: www.bodsaa.org.uk

4) Bryn-y-Pys AA have water below Overton Bridge at Erbistock down to Bangor-on-Dee. Day tickets from Deggy's Fishing Tackle, 2 Ruabon Road, Wrexham, LL13 7PB Tel: 01978 351815. See website for further details: www.bryn-y-pys.webs.com



5) The Prince Albert Angling Society controls stretches on the main river at Llandderfel, Cynwyd, Newbridge, Erbistock and Bangor on Dee but issue no day tickets. Membership available – probably with a waiting list in operation. See website: www.paas.co.uk

The next tributary upstream is the River Ceiriog, which is believed to be the river with the steepest gradient in Wales and contains some fine wild trout and grayling fishing.

6) Ceiriog Fly Fishers at Chirk have 8 miles of fishing on some of the lower stretches of the Ceiriog and offer Day and Season tickets. Tel: 01691 773632.

Back on the main river:

7) Llangollen Angling Association has several miles of fishing in the area and from January 1st 2012, incorporates what was previously Maelor A.A. Membership and day tickets are available, see websites: www.llangollenangling.net and www.maelorangling.co.uk.

Day tickets from Watkin & Williams, Ironmongers, 4, Berwyn St, Llangollen, LL20 8ND. Tel: 01978 860652, open 7 days: also Derek's Cycles, Well Street, Cefn Mawr. Tel: 01978 821841. Additionally, Ty Mawr Country Park issue tickets but only in Summer.

8) Wirral Game Fishing Club have beats at Erbistock, Overton and Chirk as well as a mile-and-a-half stretch at Corwen. Membership only.

Refer to website: www.wirralgame.org.uk

9) Midland Fly Fishers Ltd has 4 miles of excellent water from Glyndyfrdwy downstream. Day tickets are available

from Watkin & Williams, Ironmongers, 4 Berwyn St, Llangollen, LL20 8ND Tel: 01978 860652, open 7 days.

10) Capenhurst Angling Club has water below Carrog. Membership only, details from Mr.A.T.Howden, Secretary, 24 Saughall Hey, Saughall, Chester CH1 6EJ Tel: 01244 880621.

11) Corwen & District Angling Club has water on the main river and on tributaries (Alwen and Ceirw) in the Corwen area. No day tickets but membership available. Refer to website: www.cadac.org.uk or contact Club Secretary David Wooldridge, Ty Isa, Tan-y-Fron, Bylchau, Denbigh, Denbighshire, LL16 5NP. Tel: 01745 870115

12) Ty Isaf Farm, Bala has water between Llanfor & Llandderfel. Tel: Mr.Evans 01678 520574.

13) Bala & District Angling Association has excellent wild trout and grayling possibilities on the Dee from Bala Lake downstream to Llandderfel and in the lake itself. There is also trout fishing available on the Tryweryn, Llafar and Lliw. Membership available, refer to website: www.balaangling.co.uk and Day tickets and permits are available from a number of outlets in Bala:

Derwen Stores,

High Street, Bala. Tel: 01678 521084.

Post Office,

High Street, Bala. Tel: 01678 520317.

Sbanner a Hanner,

Tegid Street, Bala. Tel: 01678 520382.

Tourist Information Centre,

Bala. Tel: 01678 521021.

Bryntirion Inn,

Llandderfel. Tel: 01678 530205.

Siop D E,

Bala. Tel: 01678 521369.

River Severn

At the time of writing, the Severn Rivers Trust is in the process of establishing a series of beats on a number of tributaries that will be accessed on a passport scheme similar to those in operation elsewhere in the country. Details can be found through: www.severnriverstrust.org.uk

1) As one progresses up the Severn from its estuary, the first fishing of interest lies on the first tributary where the **Gloucester Angling Club** holds the rights to seven miles of the River Leadon near Upleadon and Durbridge Mill. This is principally a mixed fishery but some trout and grayling are in evidence. Membership only. Details on club website www.wix.com/daddyruffe/gloucester-angling-club

2) The next tributary of interest is the River Teme which itself has many important tributaries containing some excellent wild trout and grayling fishing.

3) The first tributary of the River Teme of interest is the Leigh Brook with the Cradley Brook at its head. **The Gamefishers' Club** has a stretch on each. Membership only. Details from website www.gamefishersclub.org

4) Further upstream on the River Teme, **The White Swan Piscatorials** have stretches at Bransford Bridge, Ham Bridge, Shelsley Beauchamp, Orleton Court and Stanford Bridge. Membership only. Details from website: www.whiteswanpiscatorials.org.uk

5) The Prince Albert Angling Society has several beats on the River Teme from Ham Bridge up to Ashford Carbonell. Membership only. See website: www.paas.co.uk

6) The next tributary of note is the River Rea on which **The White Swan Piscatorials** have beats at Cleobury Mortimer, Hopton Court and Detton Bridge. Membership only. Details from website: www.whiteswanpiscatorials.org.uk

7) The Gamefishers' Club has a stretch on the River Rea at Mawley Hall. Membership only. Details from website www.gamefishersclub.org

8) Tenbury Fishing Association has about four and three-quarters of a mile on the River Teme and Ledwyche Brook. Membership and day tickets available. See website for details: www.teme-valley.co.uk/teme_valley_fishing.htm

9) The White Swan Piscatorials have a stretch of the Lower Ledwyche Brook. Membership only. Details from website: www.whiteswanpiscatorials.org.uk

Returning to the River Teme:

10) There are two stretches of FREE fishing in Ludlow. One from Dinham bridge down to Mill St. Weir. This stretch, on the far bank opposite the town, is known locally as "The Bread Walk". The other section is known as "Temeside" and runs from downstream of the Severn Trent pumping station along the length of Temeside road and ends at a set of concrete steps down to the river with a metal hand rail. Details available from: Ludlow Tackle, Bromfield Road, Ludlow, SY8 1DW (www.ludlowtackle.co.uk) Tel: 01584 875886.

11) Ludlow Angling Club controls a two-mile stretch of the River Teme and its tributary, the River Corve. Day-tickets can be purchased at East Hamlet News, 8 New

Road, Ludlow (Tel: 01584 872575) or the Cliff Hotel, Dinham, Ludlow (Tel: 01584 872063), or from the Club's Membership Secretary, who can also give information. Tel: 01584 876997.

12) The next tributary upstream is the River Onny where day tickets are available at **Halford Farm**, Halford, Craven Arms, Shropshire. For details Tel: 01588 672382 (Mr. J Edwards).

13) The Plowden Estate has syndicate fishing on the West Onny. For particulars Tel: 01588 68040.

Back on the River Teme we next come to Leintwardine where there are two fishing clubs.

14) The Leintwardine Fishing Club which was founded towards the end of the nineteenth century. There is a long waiting list for membership of this exclusive club.

The Leintwardine Fishing Club allows residents of Leintwardine and their guests to fish the first 200 metres stretch of the river below the bridge on condition that they obey the usual protocols of fishing.

A short distance upstream from Leintwardine village the River Clun joins the River Teme and has some fine trout and grayling possibilities.

15) The Pheasant Tail Fly Fishers have a number of beats on the Rivers Clun, Redlake and Kemp close to Clungunford and Aston on Clun. Membership only. Details on the website: www.thepheasanttailflyfishers.co.uk

16) The Salopian Fly Fishers have one mile of the River Clun near Clungunford. Membership only. Details on the website: www.salopianflyfishers.co.uk

Returning to the River Teme above its

confluence with the River Clun there are possibilities at the following locations.

17) Bucknell House has approximately three quarters of a mile of the river available to those using the Caravan Club CL site. Tel: 01547 530640. Fishing will be available through the Wye and Usk Foundation from 2011. (www.wyeuskfoundation.org)

18) Milebrook House Hotel has approximately three miles of water which is available to residents on the river from Bucknell upstream to Knighton. Details on website (www.milebrookhouse.co.uk) and on Tel: 01547 528632.

Above Knighton the river has a habit of disappearing underground and resurfacing further downstream as it passes through limestone strata. However when there is water in the river hereabouts fishing is possible at:

19) Lower House Farm has approximately one mile of fishing available to those who call. Tel: 01547 528670.

20) Monaughty Poeth near Llanfair Waterdine, LD7 1TT has about 500 metres of double bank fishing as well as a Caravan Club CL site. Tel: 01547 528348.

Returning to the River Severn, a short distance upstream from Worcester at Hawford, the River Salwarpe enters from the north-east.

21) The White Swan Piscatorials have a stretch of the River Salwarpe at Hawford. Membership only. Details from website: www.whiteswanpiscatorials.org.uk

A short distance upstream of Bridgnorth the River Worfe joins the Severn from the north-east.

22)The Salopian Fly Fishers have some fishing on the River Worfe. Membership only. Details on the website: www.salopianflyfishers.co.uk

Further up the main river the Cound Brook enters from the west.

23)The Gamefishers' Club has stretches on the Cound Brook close to Eaton Mascott, Cantlop Bridge and Berrington. Membership only. Details from website www.gamefishersclub.org

A little further upstream the River Tern joins the Severn from the north-east.

24)The Environment Agency has one of its free fisheries on the River Tern. Details from website www.dofreefishing.co.uk/england/free-fishing-shropshire.html

25)The Nantwich Angling Society has a stretch at Waters Upton near Hodnet. Annual membership only. See website for details www.nantwichangling.co.uk

26)The Prince Albert Angling Society has a couple of beats on the River Tern near Upton Magna. Membership only. Details on website: www.paas.co.uk

27)The Rea Brook joins the Severn in Shrewsbury and the Shropshire Anglers' Federation (website: www.shropshireanglersfederation.in) has approximately three miles available on season or day tickets which can be obtained from Frankwell Post Office or Total Angling, Units 18-20 Vanguard Way, Battlefield, Shrewsbury. Tel: 01743 46269.

28)A short distance upstream from Shrewsbury the River Perry joins the Severn from the north. Warrington Anglers' Association has a short stretch at

Ruyton XI Towns. Membership only. Details on website www.warrington-anglers.org.uk

The next major tributary is the River Vyrnwy which, with its own tributaries, has some very fine wild trout and grayling fishing venues.

29)At Llanymynech the Montgomeryshire Angling Association has about half a mile of double bank fishing. Membership and day tickets available. Details on website www.montgomeryshireanglingassociation.co.uk or Tel: 01938 554971.

30)The Prince Albert Angling Society controls several stretches. Membership only. Details on website www.paas.co.uk

31)Crewe Pioneer Anglers has a stretch in the lower reaches. Tel: 01270 214859 for details & permits.

32)Close to Four Crosses the Warrington Anglers' Association has a short stretch. Membership only. Details on website: www.warrington-anglers.org.uk

The first tributary of size to join the River Vyrnwy is the River Tanat on which there are the following possibilities.

33)The Horseshoe Inn at Llanyblodwel has about 1 mile and issues day tickets. Tel: 01691 828969.

34)The Gamefishers' Club owns a stretch on the River Tanat upstream of Llanyblodwel. Membership only. Details from website www.gamefishersclub.org

35)The Green Inn at Llangedwyn has a stretch of fishing and supplies day tickets. Tel: 01691 828234.

36)Back on the River Vyrnwy near Llansantffraid the Bryn Vyrnwy Caravan Park issues day tickets. Tel: 01691 828252



37) The next tributary is the River Cain and **Green Hall in Llanfyllin** offers a small but good stretch of the river. Tel: 01691 648364.

The next tributary is the River Banwy on which there are a number of possibilities.

38) The Prince Albert Angling Society controls three stretches on the River Banwy. Membership only. Details on website: www.paas.co.uk

39) At Llanfair Caereinion the **Montgomeryshire Angling Association** has about half a mile of river. Membership and day tickets available. Details on website www.montgomeryshireanglingassociation.co.uk or Tel: 01938 554971.

40) Llysun Farm, Llanerfyl has one mile both banks. Tel: 01938 820347.

41) Cann Office Hotel, near Llangadfan has a fine stretch of the River Banwy. Day

tickets from hotel. Tel: 01938 820202.

42) Back on the River Vymwy the **Glyndwr Fishery near Dolanog** controls two and a half miles of excellent fishing but only season tickets available. Tel: 01363 774926 or visit website for details. www.glyndwr-fishery.co.uk

Returning to the River Severn above its confluence with the River Vymwy.

43) Montgomeryshire Angling Association has nearly two miles of single bank mixed fishing. Membership only, visit website for details: www.montgomeryshireanglingassociation.co.uk or Tel: 01938 554971.

44) Warrington Anglers' Association has one mile of single bank fishing east of Welshpool town centre. Membership only. Details from website: www.warrington-anglers.org.uk

Further up the main river the next tributary is the River Camlad with the unique property of being the only river to flow from England into Wales!

45) Montgomeryshire Angling Association has a short stretch of the river near Forden. Membership and day tickets available. Details on website www.montgomeryshireanglingassociation.co.uk or Tel: 01938 554971.

A short distance up the main river the River Rhiw enters from the north-west.

46) Near Berriew, the Montgomeryshire Angling Association has a short stretch of the river near Forden. Membership and day tickets available. Details on website www.montgomeryshireanglingassociation.co.uk or Tel: 01938 554971.

47) Further up the River Severn at Newtown there is a very good free stretch below the new bridge. Water in and above the town is controlled by **Severnside and Newtown Angling Club**. Day tickets are available from Newtown Angling, Severnside Centre, Short Bridge Street, Newtown. Tel: 01686 624044.

48) Caersws Angling Association (www.caersws-aa.co.uk) controls several miles of the River Severn around Caersws and Llandinam. Day tickets available from the Spar Shop and Newsagent in Caersws and Post Office in Llandinam.

49) The Llanidloes and District Angling Association has stretches of the River Severn below and above the town. Details on website www.llanidloes.com/angling_club

50) In Llanidloes there is free fishing on the River Severn at the **Environment Agency Fishery**, an 800 metre stretch below the

sewage works. Further details from Environment Agency. Tel: 01743 272828.

51) Above the town of Llanidloes the Llanidloes and District Angling Association has stretches on the Rivers Severn, Dulas and Clywedog. Further details on website www.llanidloes.com/angling_club

River Wye & Tributaries

This catchment offers a rich and diverse opportunity for trout & grayling fishing, from the upper & lower Wye to it's notable tributaries, the Monnow, Lugg, Llynfi, Edw, Irfon, Ithon and Elan. Many of these primary tributaries support important secondary and tertiary tributaries of which the Dore, Honddu, Arrow, Hindwell Brook and Cammarch.

1) The Wye and Usk Foundation Passport Scheme offers a superb range of day ticket fishing on these rivers, and can be contacted on 01982 551 520 or www.wyeuskfoundation.org

2) Hay on Wye has free fishing on town water downstream of the bridge to the Pump Station.

3) Glaslyn Estate near Rhayader, superb fishing for holiday guests but no day tickets. Tel: 01597 810258 for booking details.

4) The Red Lion Hotel at Bredwardine has 4 miles of water known as The Moccas Fishery. Primarily this is a salmon and coarse fishery but it is worth noting that a number of trout and grayling have been caught hereabouts. Realistically this beat marks the downstream limit of trout and grayling on the river. See hotel website for particulars: www.redlion-hotel.com

River Trothy

1) The Monmouth & District Angling

Society (www.monmouthfishing.co.uk) has two stretches on the Trothy, giving a total of about 3.5 miles. Day tickets available from Bridge Cycles in Monmouth. Further information is to be found on the website.

River Monnow

1) Monmouth & District Angling Society (www.monmouthfishing.co.uk) has three stretches on the Monnow. Day tickets available from Bridge Cycles in Monmouth. Further information is to be found on the website.

2) The Monnow Fisheries Association (www.monnow.org) has water on the Monnow and Trothy. For further information contact the Secretary on 01989 770667 or visit the website.

3) The Cwmbran Angling Association has 2 miles of fishing on the Monnow above Osbaston weir. Tickets (season and day) and information from the association on 01633 874472.

River Irfon

(in addition to Foundation)

1) Builth Wells, Groe Park and Irfon AC have 3 miles. Tel: 01982 552759 for tickets and information.

2) Hendre Farm, Builth Wells has 3 miles. Tel: 01982 551070 for tickets and information.

3) Permits are available for the **Cammarch Hotel** water on the Irfon from the hotel. See website for particulars: www.cammarch.com

4) Permits are available for the **Lake House Country Hotel** water on the Irfon from the hotel. See website for particulars: www.lakecountryhouse.co.uk

River Ithon

1) The Wye and Usk Foundation has Roving Voucher beats on the Ithon. Details from website (www.wyeuskfoundation.org)

2) The Llandrindod Wells Angling Association has fishing on approximately 4 miles of the River Ithon in the vicinity of the town. Information and permits from Secretary (Tel: 01597 823539) or the Tourist Information Centre (Tel: 01597 822600) or Disserseth Farm Caravan Park (Tel: 01597 860277).

3) Further upstream towards Penybont day tickets are available from **Bryn Thomas Farm, Penybont** (Tel: 01597 851315) for about 2 miles of fishing on the River Ithon.

4) The Severn Arms Hotel, Penybont issues day tickets for a few stretches of the River Ithon which are mainly upstream from Penybont. See website: www.severn-arms.co.uk or Tel: 01597 851224 for details.

Rivers Lugg and Arrow

The Lugg and Arrow rivers have substantial grayling populations and are situated in magnificent countryside. Notable grayling beats on the River Lugg are those at Eyton and Lyepole and on the River Arrow are The Leen and Court of Noke.

1) The Hereford and District Angling Association (www.hdaa.blogspot.com) has fishing on the lower Lugg and a few grayling have been recorded hereabouts. Details of permits from website.

2) The Rivers Lugg and Arrow Fisheries Association in conjunction with the **Wye and Usk Foundation** have a number of beats available on highly productive waters. (www.wyeuskfoundation.org)

GLoucestershire

River Coln



1) The Bull Hotel, Fairford has 1.5 miles of water from the Market Square downstream. D/ts are available from the hotel with special rates for hotel guests. Fly only and 6 rods available. To book Tel: 01285 712535.

SOUTH WALES

Grayling Society Area 14

River Taff

Has a growing reputation for excellent trout & grayling fishing and several clubs control water for which day tickets are available:

Bedlinog & District AC,
Tel: 02920 885409

Birchgrove(Cardiff) AS,
Tel: 02920 460697 or 02920 619828.

Bute AA,
Tel: 02920 460697 or 02920 619828.

Ffynnon Cynon Taff AC,

limited day tickets. Apply by email to sewinfly@hotmail.com

Glyncornel AA,

Tel: 01443 432289.

Osprey AA,

Tel: 01685 877122.

Glamorgan AC,

Tel: 02920 460697 or 02920 619828.

River Rhymer

Llanbradach AC,

tickets from Terry's Tackle,
Tel: 02920 885409.

Caerphilly AS,

tickets from Terry's Tackle,
Tel: 02920 885409.

Royal Oak AC,

Ystrad Mynach,
tickets from Terry's Tackle,
Tel: 02920 885409.

River Ogmor

Ogmor AA,

Bridgend,
Tel: 01656 721591.

River Ewenny

(tributary of Ogmor)

Ogmor AA,

Tel: 01656 721591.

Pencoe & District AC,

Tel: 01656 660683.

Glamorgan Anglers,

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THE GRAYLING ANGLING CODE

Wading

Grayling often inhabit salmon rivers, so if your ticket permits you to wade, do so with great care as it is a criminal offence to disturb redds and spawning fish. The Society supports salmon interests in denouncing 'shuffling' (attracting grayling by shuffling your feet to release insects from the riverbed), for not only can redds be disturbed, but it can have adverse impact on fry and other aquatic life. It can also lead to wading being banned or even access being denied, so please don't do it. For your own safety you should wear waders suitable for the conditions prevailing, use common sense over where you wade, and when deep wading employ a wading staff and a buoyancy aid, especially in unfamiliar waters.

Angling Methods

The Grayling Society is not a fly fishing club. Many anglers do use the fly, but bait fishing is widely practised, particularly in the winter months, and is sometimes essential if fish are to be caught. Whichever method is to be employed, please check and follow the rules!

Give proper consideration to other anglers - don't cut across others fishing, or crowd or obstruct, particularly on the opposite bank, and be prepared to give way after fishing a pool or stretch of river. The number and size of grayling that can be taken is now limited by law, so be aware of these limits, particularly if fishing is good, and accept that some blank days are part of the fishing experience.

The aims of the Grayling Society are '...to promote awareness, conservation and angling for Grayling...'

The Grayling Angling Code has been prepared to help us all fish for Grayling in a manner that shows respect for the fish and contributes to its conservation and welfare.

Good Conduct

Grayling Society members are expected to engage in good practice wherever they fish. Educating by example, they should be courteous and considerate to fellow anglers

and others using the water amenity, park wisely, close all gates, treat hedges and walls as barriers not sporting obstacles and observe the Country Code.

Never leave nylon or other litter on the river bank. Discarded hooks and nylon endangers wildlife.

Rules of the River

Valid permission to fish should be obtained before fishing, supported where applicable with a rod licence. Remember that there is now a national EA bye-law about keeping grayling; up to two grayling, of 30-38cm, per day, may be removed between 16th June and 15th March. Local rules can vary widely, even on adjacent beats, so they should always be consulted and complied with. Should you disagree with one or other of them, don't turn a blind eye and do it your way. If you feel strongly about it, a reasoned and courteous letter to the club or proprietor may prove a catalyst for future change. Constructive feed-back is usually appreciated.

Hooks

It is strongly recommended that anglers use barbless hooks or hooks which have had the barb pinched down, whether using fly or bait. Experience has shown that, providing a fish is played correctly with a tight line, few fish are lost as a direct result of using barbless hooks. Indeed barbless hooks are commonly used in match angling for coarse fish where landing hooked fish is vital and speed in the unhooking of a landed fish is advantageous.

Playing a Grayling

We all know how hard fighting a Grayling can be, especially downstream of you in a strong water flow. It is important to bring the fish to hand as soon as possible within the limits of your terminal tackle. Please play the fish quickly whilst avoiding the possibility of 'breaking off' and leaving a hook in the Grayling. Do not overplay a Grayling for your own amusement.

Fish Handling

When handling any fish which is to be returned to the water it is essential to consider its well being.

Wet your hands before touching any fish. Dry hands remove the surface 'slime' from the fish which is there to protect against waterborne parasites and diseases. Try not to handle the fish at all by leaning down and unhooking the fish in the water using forceps, anglers pliers, fingers or a product such as the 'Ketchum Release'.

Avoid the temptation to hold a fish up for admiration – it may boost your ego but could harm the fish.

Unhooking underwater is the preferred method. Even merely lifting the fishes head out of the water will reduce its chances of survival.

If a fish has swallowed a hook which cannot be easily and quickly removed, cut off the spare nylon and leave the hook. This will ultimately be less stressful than probing inside the fish with forceps or a disgorger because rusting and digestive fluids will eventually break down the hook.

Returning Fish

Landed fish are tired, especially after a prolonged fight. Contrary to what one may think, a large fish will recover less quickly than a smaller one. When returning any fish hold it carefully in the water facing upstream and keep holding it until it has recovered and is capable of swimming away, perfectly upright, under its own power. Do not hold it with your fingers over the gills - it will drown!

Do not move the fish backwards and forwards in the water in the belief that this will speed up its recovery - it won't. In fact, this action can reduce its chances of recovery because silt or other foreign bodies may enter the gills.

Nets

The traditional knotted mesh is illegal so all nets should be fitted with a knotless mesh. Whenever a landing net is used it should be submerged and the fish drawn over it before lifting it gently up and out of the water. Unhooking should then be carried out with wet hands and the fish either released or despatched as quickly as possible.

Do not put Grayling into keepnets as they suffer badly from stress in this situation.

Last Rites

If a fish is to be kept then please despatch it quickly using a priest. Stones, pieces of wood or the butt of your rod are crude and disrespectful alternatives which should not be used.

Respect

Grayling were not put in this world for our pleasure. However, we do gain pleasure from catching Grayling and many people enjoy eating them. They are wild creatures and when angling for them we are engaged in a legitimate pursuit. Let us all treat the pursuit of Grayling and the fish with the respect this age-old tradition deserves.

Environmental Considerations

Anglers are the watchdogs of the river and its environment. Please report any pollution, or other threat to fish, to a responsible person or agency e.g. fishery manager, river keeper, club official, Environment Agency.

Safety

Like all sports, fishing can be dangerous so, look behind before casting. Wear eye and head protection, particularly in windy conditions - remember also that graphite (carbon) rods conduct electricity, so take extra care when fishing near overhead power lines, electric fences and in thunder storms, when it is advisable to stop fishing altogether.

Final Word

The Society was born out of enthusiasm for the Grayling. Like the Grayling it is special, and has the respect of many in the worlds of angling and conservation. Let us keep it that way by observing this Code and encouraging people concerned with angling everywhere to be committed to our cause and to our lovely fish.

Whenever and wherever you are fishing for Grayling – enjoy yourself! Tight lines!



The Grayling Society - UK Area Secretaries

No Area Secretary at present

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Scotland

Area 10 - Pat Stevens

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Chalk Stream Grayling

For the past couple of years I have been privileged to be able to coarse fish a prime stretch of the lower Test in winter. I have caught many specimen grayling. It has been a bit of an adventure. Relatively few anglers have specialised in these fish; they have too often been sidelined as a second-class game species.

Swims can be anything from the classic glide to the slowly-moving eddy; and all sorts of odd pockets of water between. One thing I have noticed is that the bigger fish definitely prefer areas where they can conserve energy. Eddies and slacks, even the smallest ones, should never be ignored. Grayling seem to have fairly catholic tastes, and it is up to you to experiment with baits...

It seems a shame on rivers like this to do anything but float fish. And when my float takes a dive, I am likely to connect with a decent fish of one kind or another.

Hopefully some of the fish I connect with will be big grayling...

Fishing in this chalk stream environment has made me acutely aware of the need for active conservation and predator control measures. To see so many cormorants overhead making their way upstream is testament to the richness of the inland aquatic environment. It is also a cause for worry.

I have been privileged enough to see salmon making their way upstream. The reintroduction of otters, which haul out large fish like salmon and carp and leave most of the carcass, gives me some concern; the enthusiasm for the reintroduction of beavers even more so.

The necessity of establishing a workable system of predator control is just one of the reasons why as anglers we need a strong, unified body to fight our corner – join the Angling Trust.

Rod Sturdy



THE VOICE OF ANGLING

Join the Angling Trust online at www.anglingtrust.net

or call 0844 77 00 616