

WADAA Catch Returns

January 2021

The reason why most of us go fishing is to catch fish, the massively added bonus for WADAA members is they also get to do it in a fantastic environment. The Board of Directors at WADAA have been working hard to ensure that we get an appropriate spread of resources and expenditure between stock, venues and facilities.

As part of it's stock management (details of which were published to members over New Year), we have introduced a method which allows us to monitors stocks. Though applicable to both game and coarse fishing, it is of particular importance for trout fishing.

The club's single biggest expenditure (by far!) is on game fish. Getting the right number of fish in venues is critical to achieve:

- Good sport
- Healthy fish
- Controllable predation
- Good finances/lowest possible membership fees

Too many or too few fish is detrimental to all of these key considerations.

Previously, WADAA has deployed a 'paper-based' method of reporting catches on a number of its venues. Though providing some useful information, it was severely limited in its effectiveness:

- Records were subject to poor weather
- Data was impossible to consolidate without a huge amount of manual transacting (costly and error-ridden)
- It wasn't convenient for anglers who needed to make a 'quick exit'
- Not all venues have a suitable place to record catches
- Some records were abused and vandalized
- Records were hidden to members unless they were actually at the venue

A combination of these things meant the accuracy was very poor and the data couldn't be relied upon.

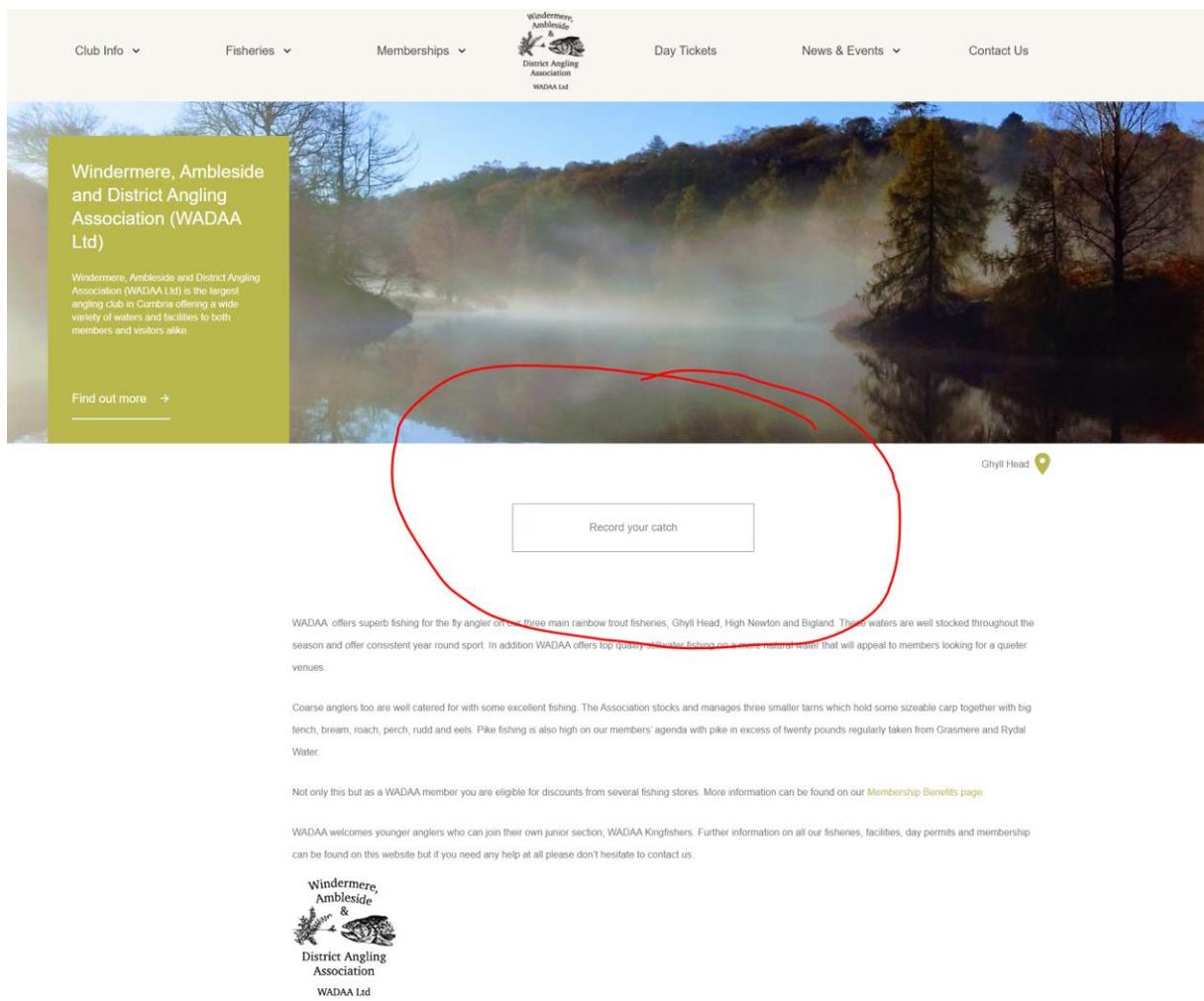
As a result, we have devised a very simple system applicable to all venues and all disciplines. Members can record their catch return either at the time, or subsequently, via a scan of a QR code displayed at the venue exit points or by making an entry directly through the club website.

WADAA Catch Return



**ALL ANGLERS MUST COMPLETE
A CATCH RETURN**

Try scanning it from here – it works!!



www.lakedistrictfishing.co.uk

Either method allows anglers to input some critical information, venue, number caught, number taken etc using simply data entry and drop-down tables.

The return is very quick to complete and submit and though may appear to be a little daunting for members to begin with, is actually very simple – try it!!

Catch Return

Choose a game venue



Choose a coarse venues



Your name

Date

dd/mm/yyyy



Member Day Ticket angler

Number of fish caught

Number of fish kept (Game only)

Number of fish caught over 5lb (Game only)

Fly type/bait used

Predation

Cormorant

Goosander/Merganser

Otter

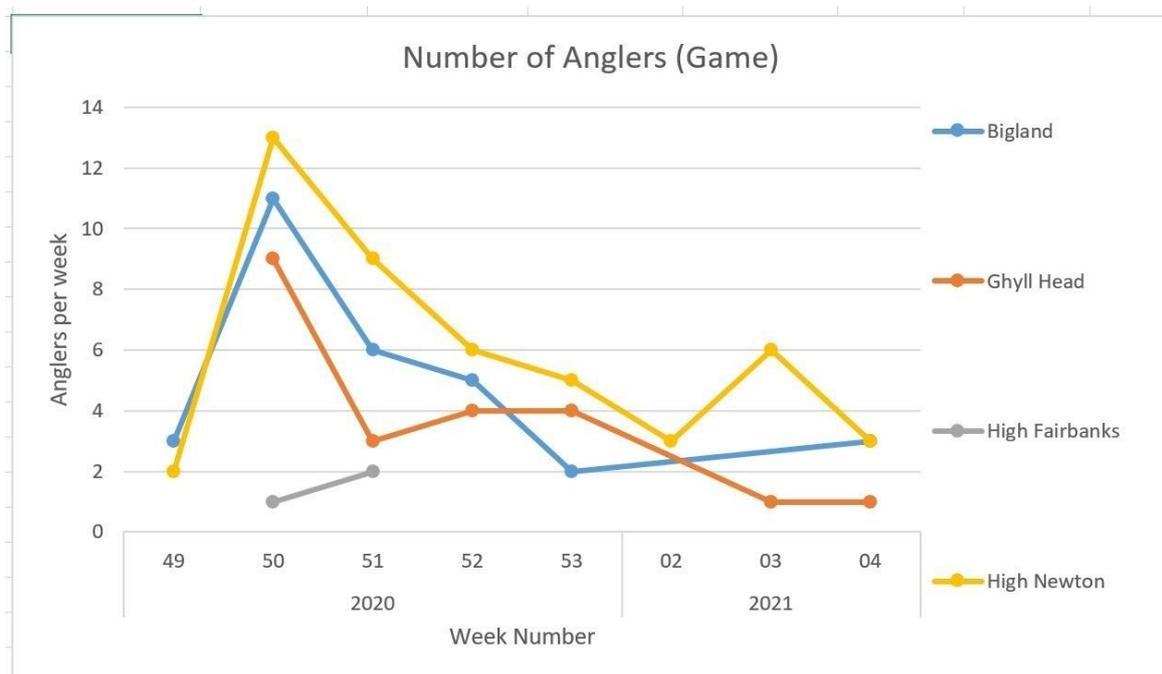
Comments

Submit

Once a submission is made, the individual pieces of data from the different fields are consolidated into a big data table:

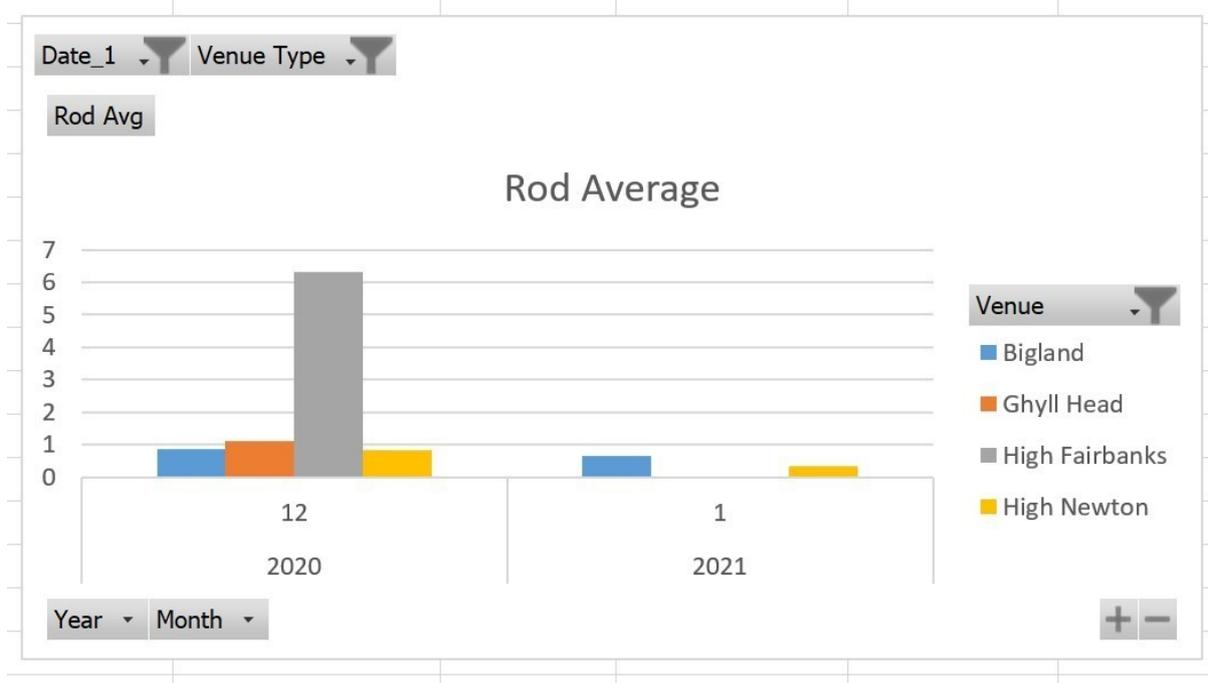
ID	Date	Status	Game Venues	Coarse Venues	Date 1	Membership	Fish Caught	Fish Kept	Fish Caught 5lb	Fly Type Used	Cormorant	Goosander/Merganser	Otter	Comments
1382	18/01/2021 15:26	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	18/01/2021	Member	0							
1381	18/01/2021 15:25	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	18/01/2021	Member	0				3			
1378	18/01/2021 14:51	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member								
1377	18/01/2021 14:50	unread	Bigland	Choose a coarse venues	18/01/2021	Member	2	2	0	White Fritz				
1359	17/01/2021 16:58	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	17/01/2021	Member	2			Buzzer				
1358	17/01/2021 14:15	unread	Bigland	Choose a coarse venues	17/01/2021	Member	0							
1357	17/01/2021 14:15	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member								
1356	17/01/2021 14:15	unread	Bigland	Cleabarrow Tarn	17/01/2021	Member	0	0		Various	0	0	0	Tough going, didn't see a single fish!
1354	17/01/2021 11:24	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	17/01/2021	Member	0				4			
1353	17/01/2021 11:23	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	17/01/2021	Member	0				4			
1352	17/01/2021 11:23	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	16/01/2021	Member	0				3			
1325	15/01/2021 16:43	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	12/01/2021	Member	0				1			
1324	15/01/2021 16:42	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	13/01/2021	Member	2	0	1	Buzzer	2			
1323	15/01/2021 16:41	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	14/01/2021	Member	0				1			
1322	15/01/2021 16:40	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	14/01/2021	Member	0				1			
1321	15/01/2021 16:40	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	15/01/2021	Member	0							
1230	12/01/2021 17:35	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	12/01/2021	Member	0	0						
1185	09/01/2021 14:43	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	07/08/2020	Member	2	2	Zero	Pheasant tail nymph				
1160	08/01/2021 10:34	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	08/01/2021	Member	0							
1125	06/01/2021 19:04	unread	Choose a game venue	Rydal Water	04/01/2021	Member	1	Pike		mackerel	yes			fished the roadside point at Rydal. Looks like there has
1070	05/01/2021 09:32	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member								
1069	05/01/2021 09:32	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	04/01/2021	Member	0							
1068	05/01/2021 09:32	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	05/01/2021	Member	0							
1066	05/01/2021 07:46	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	30/12/2020	Member	0	0	9	Damsel	1 cormorant		No otter	
1024	04/01/2021 07:28	unread	Choose a game venue	Castlehead Fishery	24/12/2020	Member	0							
892	30/12/2020 17:11	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member	0							
891	30/12/2020 17:11	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0				0			
881	30/12/2020 14:55	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	30/12/2020	Member	0				1			
861	29/12/2020 18:52	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member								
860	29/12/2020 18:52	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	Nil							Very poor fishing!!
859	29/12/2020 18:41	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0	0	0	Damsel				
844	29/12/2020 13:58	unread	Ghyll Head	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0	0	0		2			
842	29/12/2020 13:51	unread	Bigland	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0							
841	29/12/2020 13:24	unread	Bigland	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0				0	0	0	
839	29/12/2020 11:09	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	29/12/2020	Member	0				3			
838	29/12/2020 11:09	unread	High Newton	Choose a coarse venues	27/12/2020	Member	0							
817	28/12/2020 20:27	unread	Choose a game venue	Choose a coarse venues		Member								

There is now a huge advantage here for our members. We can churn the data and produce some information and make it available for viewing. This chart shows the number of anglers fishing each venue:



This chart shows the rolling average catch returns for each venue

(note the information current displayed is sample only).

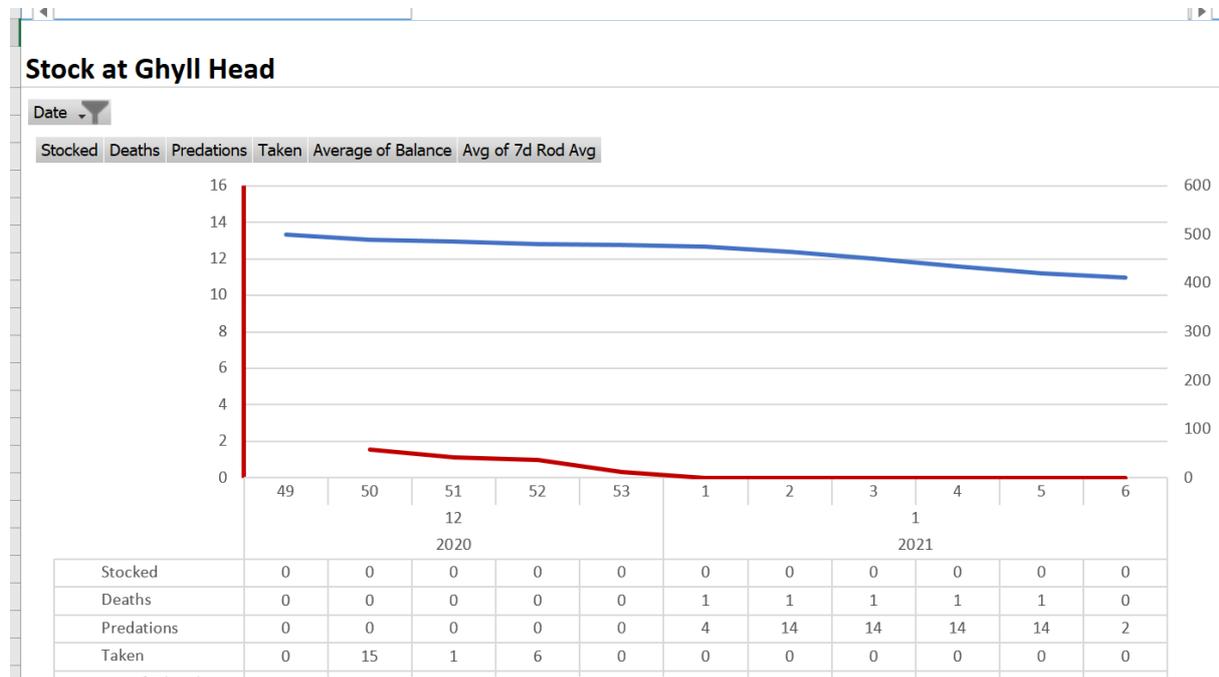


This information will be updated weekly and displayed on the club website for members to access.

In addition to this, we combine the catch return information, particularly regarding the numbers of fish taken, with additional stock data:

- Stocking dates and quantities
- Estimations of predations
- Estimations of deaths
- Estimations of carry-over stocks

From this we can track the number of fish in each venue:



In doing so, we can much more effectively manage and control fish stocks to ensure that we are operating at an optimal level.

The club is constantly looking for ways to progress and improve and conscious that most of it's money comes from member subscriptions, get maximum return on every pound spent.

This represents a huge step forwards for us in terms of stock management. However, it is completely reliant on anglers conscientiously and accurately completing the returns. We need you to:

1. Complete a return every time you go fishing – a **MUST**
2. Complete a return even if you catch no fish
3. Complete the return accurately, filling in all the information fields
4. Complete the return in a timely manner – preferably as you leave the venue, or at worst case, within a week of fishing

For every return not completed, the information we (and you) are basing decisions on is less accurate.

This is a major tool in helping the club offer the best, cost-effective sport possible.