



Sept 2014 Newsletter

GCDAC are pleased to report that the construction of our River pathway and fishing stands project will begin on week commencing 15th September and should take approximately 3 weeks to complete.



This project has taken 3 years to bring to light, a number of legal processes were required to acquire the fishing rights, access and permission from the Church of Ireland Vestry. The stretch of river can be accessed by the rear of the Glenaidan Centre.

The project will include the river pathway which will start behind the Glenaidan Centre and stop at St Aidan's Church Hall.

Three fishing stands will be erected in this area, two standard and one disabled fishing stand. The Club hope that this new facility will encourage our local community young and old to use the public walkway, become involved in the sport of angling and support the Club conservation activities. Over the next few years we intend to improve on those facilities and put Glenavy firmly back in the spotlight as an area of natural beauty and a River that is free from pollution. This project has been funded by Lagan Rural Partnership (DARD) and Lisburn City Council. A plan is attached.

Conservation Volunteers required!



During a recent tree survey, the trees on the River bank at the site of the project were recorded and are now on a monitoring programme, extensive tree surgery was carried out where required. The Club **urgently** need volunteers to help clear

some of the over growth around the Riverbank after the Construction work has been carried out. The tree surgery has also left untidy debris around the pathway, the Club also intend to have a River clean up to remove dumping from the River in the Autumn. So if you have any time to spare please come forward and lend your support, the team will be grateful.





RSPB visit

The Conservation volunteers are planning a visit to RSPB Portmore, if you are interested in birds and wildlife this may be the right time to get involved with the Club. All are welcome.

Young Anglers and over 50's Training Scheme

The Club is running a series of training days at Brookhall Fisheries which will start late September and October.

This is a good opportunity to improve your casting skills, the Glenavy Youth Project will be arranging the young angler's events. If you know a young person between 11-15 years who would be interested in joining us please reply to this email or contact Joe Largey. We are interested to know if **anyone** wants to be involved in our beginner's programme, everyone is welcome, a light lunch will be arranged.

If you are experienced and would like to come along to coach others, please contact the Club.



*At the end of June a pollution incident killed **400** fish in the Glenavy River.*

The Club would like to thank all those who came forward and expressed their support. The Club restocking programme has been running for over 5 years and sadly, most of the trout that were killed were mature stock that we had been nurturing for some time. This has come as a setback to the Club and we have therefore contacted our local MP's to fight for tougher fines, we will not tolerate further pollution. The NIEA are aware of the pollution incident and their spokesperson advised us that the agricultural source will be prosecuted in due course.



DON'T FORGET!

If you think a pollution incident has occurred on the river, please contact the Water Pollution Hotline on **0800 80 70 60**.

The Club is asking our members to be vigilant and let us know if and when dumping has occurred in the river. Every year working parties from the Club remove dozens of plastic bags and household debris. Last year a mattress, swings and slides were also found dumped in the River. This causes horrendous difficulties for the wildlife of the River.

Debris in the River



Help us fight back!

Please help us keep our river clean! The natural beauty of our river is enjoyed by our entire community and we are asking the local residents need to come on board and help us to put a stop to pollution and dumping.

Glenavy Conservation and District Angling Club Facebook page is up and running, please ask your friends and family to support your local community activities.



Unfortunately the Website has been down for most of this year, please bear with us as we are in the process of producing a new website as part of the River pathway project. We will also have an opportunity to renew our branding with a new logo which will be up and running for the next season.

Has your



lapsed...?



As you know the Club have considerable outlay UAF, Fish Legal and Mead Sport insurance in order to insure our members, working parties and now also public liability for the general public. The River Pathway has been a huge undertaking and commitment for the Club to insure a public pathway, in time we hope to offer day permits to help recoup the costs. All the more reason why we very much need the support from our members each year in our endeavour to build a sustainable environmentally friendly angling Club!

Please renew your subscription (£20) if you haven't done so already.