

York & District Amalgamation of Anglers.

Newsheet 357 (04.17.)

Angling Improvement Fund successes for YDAA Members will be pleased to learn that the Amalgamation has been successful in being awarded TWO grants to undertake improvements to their waters by the Angling Trust. Funds are made available from rod licence income by the Environment Agency, and are open to competitive bids by angling clubs and organisations.

This current round of bids under the heading of "Getting waters ready for Spring" was well over-subscribed, so huge thanks must go the Vice Chairman, Ken Jones, who put the bids together over a very limited timescale at Christmas, and the Trustees, who chased up the progress of our bids with Angling Trust officers.

The waters to receive a little TLC are Moor Monkton, where the Car park and access will be improved; and Burn Road, where access to the fishing and ground clearance are the priorities.

Members should keep an eye on Newsletters, the website and social media for work party updates if they are able to offer assistance. Don't worry if your favourite water is not included yet. The Trustees and GPC are keen to improve the facilities on all waters for members, but remember, they will need your assistance.

Work Party at Burn Road. Four members of the General Purposes Committee and one YDAA member made a considerable impact on access to the pegs at Burn Road Pond on Saturday, 8th April. Bankside vegetation, branches that impeded casting and shoots overhanging the water's edge were removed, so that within a few hours at least twelve pegs could be approached and fished comfortably by pole or rod and line.

Litter was collected from the Car Park area, the entrance and the road verge closest to the water; and a good start was made on removing the bouncy castle -yes, indeed a bouncy castle - that some selfish soul had dumped in the Car Park!

This task will obviously be taken to completion at a subsequent work party. There is plenty of work that needs to be done to satisfy our match-funding commitment, as part of meeting the requirements of our Angling Improvement Fund grant. [See above] Some tasks may well require contractors by their sheer scale e.g. the vast number of brambles to be eradicated. Keep an eye on notices on the website and social media from Publicity Officer, Jeremy Preston.

SKIP BRIDGE. Anglers looking forward to the new season should note that work will begin on June 16th - at the insistence of the Environment Agency, to protect the close season - to replace the existing flow gauge at Skip Bridge with a new design to reduce the silting in this area.

This is regarded as key work, as the gauge is part of the national system of water level monitoring, which informs the EA's decisions to issue flood warnings. Work is expected to be completed by 30th September.

The Trustees have been properly consulted, and are satisfied that the work will not impede the migration of fish; further that arrangements will be put in place to mitigate against either silt or building materials contaminating fish, spawn and the wider eco-system.

Leases. A number of leases have been agreed and continued on some of our popular river sections which will secure access for the forthcoming years. It is hoped to renew more leases over the next few months helping to keep our portfolio available at a very reasonable fee.
