

# A.F.Y.D. NEWSLETTER



## JUNE 2013



**WELCOME TO THE AFYD JUNE NEWSLETTER.**

### **AFYD MEMBER WINS DREAMSTORE ACTIVE INCLUSION AWARD**



**Dreamstore Active Social Inclusion Award presented to Jim Mathew, North Lanarkshire AFYD**

Pictured left to right: William McCutcheon, North Lanarkshire AFYD, Ray Unsworth, Sales Sharks Academy Director and speaker at Dreamstore Day; Jim Mathew, North Lanarkshire AFYD, David Hoey, Dreamstore; and Police Constable Steve Cuthbert, Coatbridge High School.

**Jim Mathew of North Lanarkshire AFYD was presented with the award at our Dreamstore day. Jim has given 16 years dedicated service to teaching youngsters to fish at Coatbridge High School. From all of us in AFYD, well done Jim.**

**Read about Jim, William McCutcheon and their team in our featured hub in the hubs section later in this newsletter.**

**\*\*EDITORIAL NOTE** (Previous to report in last newsletter of separate newsletters by country)  
After discussion with organisations situated in England and Ireland it was agreed to have one newsletter and incorporate stories from these countries when they wish to send them.\*\*



### **AGM 2013.**

The AGM was well attended and a lot of points were resolved and AFYD is now moving forward. The Constitution is under review to assist local branches or hubs to be able to apply for local grants more easily. The old constitution was out of date and a barrier to these applications. However this will take a legal process and it will probably be at the 2014 AGM that changes occur or at a specially convened EGM depending on the timescale that the legal team and the Trust can reconcile everything with Trust agreements and the OSCR. Elections took place and the following persons below were elected to assist the AFYD Trust in the daily running of AFYD. We are now in a strong financial position with a budget which will be fiscally applied. Expenditure proposals for 2014 should be submitted no later than 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013. A full minute of the AGM and financial report will be circulated in the near future.

#### **Working Committee:**

Chairperson:	Richard Dickson	<a href="mailto:richarddickson408@btinternet.com">richarddickson408@btinternet.com</a>
Trustee Liaison:	Cameron Denholm	<a href="mailto:cameron.denholm@wled.org.uk">cameron.denholm@wled.org.uk</a>
Administration:	George Knight	<a href="mailto:afyd@btinternet.com">afyd@btinternet.com</a>
Hub Liaison:	John Stewart	<a href="mailto:jhste@talktalk.net">jhste@talktalk.net</a>
Other Agencies Liaison:	Jim Mathew	<a href="mailto:MrMathew@coatbridge.n-lanark.sch.uk">MrMathew@coatbridge.n-lanark.sch.uk</a>
Committee Member	Tom Anderson	<a href="mailto:andert82@hotmail.co">andert82@hotmail.co</a>
Committee Member	Alex Brown	<a href="mailto:anglerbrown@hotmail.com">anglerbrown@hotmail.com</a>
Committee Member	John Cameron	<a href="mailto:johncheryl@hotmail.co.uk">johncheryl@hotmail.co.uk</a>

Members are requested to contact the Administrator George Knight only with any enquiries and he will disseminate the information to the person concerned. This coordinates the information and allows AFYD to be more professional in its collation of information and tracking progress on what is happening with enquiries. Further it would assist us if members could reply positively and negatively to email requests for personal details, volunteers or assistance. This negates continuous emails on the same subject.

Change of Trustees: Stephen Gill, Grev Humphrey, Steven Kelly and Ian Willams are no longer Trustees of AFYD having stood down at this AGM. OSCR will be informed with the Annual Report and Accounts. All other previous Trustees are still in place and they are in the process of recruiting more Trustees, with the knowledge to take us further and achieve more funding.

The Trust has moved to a fiscal budget and recently a proposals form was sent out to all members. If you have an idea or event that requires Trust expenditure this must be completed and passed to the Administrator for the Trust who will pass it to the Trustees for approval. This helps the Trust to remain within our fiscal budget.

The working committee are open for you enquiries and welcome any questions or input you may have to help AFYD move forward. So do not hesitate to let us know how you feel or what you think. You all are entitled to voice your opinions and discuss matters of concern or even offering praise. So do not hesitate to call us.



## **ERSKINE HOME, BISHOPTON, RENFREWSHIRE A NEW AND EXCITING INITIATIVE**



East Renfrewshire AFYD and Renfrewshire AFYD assisted by SSACN, children from St. Luke's High School and Eaglesham Primary School have started an initiative working with the elderly residents in Erskine Home, Bishopton. This is a departure from the work we normally do but a chance encounter with Craig Berry a member of staff at Erskine led to AFYD working with residents with ASN and mobility problems ranging in age from 60 – 98 years. It appears that our programme of working with the small training rods is extremely beneficial for the well being of such residents and good exercise for them. There is also a therapeutic value to the indoor

sessions as they have fun and a laugh (usually at our expense) and the involvement of the children and the conversations that ensue is again both a benefit for both age groups. The coaches also have a thoroughly enjoyable experience. One of the residents called Fred (98) is an exceptional caster having in his day been a keen fisherman. Fred because of his mobility problems had not cast a rod in over 20 years and the joy this initiative gives him has to be seen to be believed. The staff has given the team positive feedback and best of all the residents love it.

Our thanks to Craig Berry and the Erskine Home for allowing us the privilege of working with their exceptional residents and people we now regard as friends.



**Erskine have invited us to their open day between 10am and 3pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013 to demonstrate what we do and assist the home to raise funds. So if you are in the vicinity come along and help the home in its fundraising.  
Address of the Home is Erskine Home, Bishopton, Renfrewshire PA7 5PU**





## HUB REPORTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

### **FEATURED HUB North Lanarkshire AFYD**

**North Lanarkshire AFYD** is our featured group this month and they are achieving remarkable results over the last 16 years. Jim Mathew and his team of William McCutcheon, the school staff at Coatbridge High School and the local police force have done exceptional work in changing behaviour and attitudes of young persons by having them engage in angling. Jim's group was going 6 years before AFYD started and long before any youth initiative in angling started in the UK. Not ones for publicity and all straight talking individuals, Jim and his team just get on with the job in hand, teaching kids to fish. It was fantastic to see his facial expression at the Dreamstore training day when he was presented with the award featured at the beginning of this newsletter. Flabbergasted does not even come close. Not to be forgotten or in the shadow of Jim is fellow coach William McCutcheon a quite and thoughtful individual who carries out his work with the children in a quiet and professional way, putting them at their ease and guiding them confidently to fine casting and exceptional fly tying. Also to the staff at Coatbridge High School who support Jim and William in their work and to the local police in particular Steve Cuthbert who ably assists when required. Well done to you all and may you keep up the good work. I will now direct you to Jim's matter of fact report on the ordinary goings on of a hub, any hub in the AFYD Family. It appears routine as all our reports do but the work we all do is exceptional.

### **NORTH LANARKSHIRE AFYD**

#### **Report by Project Leader Jim Mathew & William McCutcheon**

Monday: 1600 hrs to 1800 hrs fly casting has taken place in Coatbridge High School with 5 boys doing the overhead and the roll cast have stopped as exams are on in school all will be back for the summer program

Wednesday: After school 1530 hrs to 1700 hrs fly-tying has taken place in Coatbridge High School with 5 boys doing the AFYD course Stopped at present due to the SQA exams in school all will be back for the summer program.

The children were all taken on a fishing trip to Newmilns Fishery and an enjoyable time was had by all.



### **DYNAMIC YOUTH AND YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

AFYD for sometime in all branches have been progressing children through Youth Achievement and Dynamic Youth Awards our latest 10 pupils from Coatbridge High School took part in the fishing club water safety and passed the Dynamic Youth Award. They were involved in learning the safety aspects of fishing by a river this include the wearing of life jackets, use of throw lines, wading techniques and risk assessment of potential dangers at a fishery. They were led by Mr Mathew (AFYD) and all completed the tasks set with flying colours.





### **NORTH LANARKSHIRE AFYD CONTINUED**

Finally I will finish with details of why the award was presented to Jim and a relevant statement by David Hoey of Dreamstore.

This year's Dreamstore Active Social Inclusion Award is made to Jim Mathew and his team at Coatbridge High School for the consistent and sustained programme of engaging young people in angling over more than fifteen years. The Award was presented at the recent Dreamstore Day for angling development which brought together voluntary sector groups from all over Scotland.

David Hoey, Dreamstore comments:

"One of the most difficult challenges in the voluntary sector is sustainability. This Award to Jim Mathew and the Coatbridge High School team of coaches and volunteers is for the tremendous achievement of having introduced hundreds of young people to angling over a time scale of more than fifteen years. Additionally, Jim works with others in the area on encouraging disadvantaged young people into positive recreational angling. This award is richly deserved."



## **OTHER HUB REPORTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER**

### **AYR AFYD**

#### **Report by Editor George Knight**

Sadly James has left AFYD to start a new job with GAIAC. As he was the only coach in Ayr and no other person is being trained or interested at present the project in Ayr with AFYD has terminated. The editor would like to thank James for all his hard work in the past on behalf of AFYD and wish him every success in the GAIAC job.

### **EAST PERTHSHIRE AFYD**

#### **Report by Project Leader John Cameron**

We continue to work teaching fly tying to children in the community and have an ongoing project. In early June we will be attending the Strathmore Arts Festival and the Blairgowrie Merchants Festival to promote AFYD and demonstrate what we do.

### **EAST RENFREWSHIRE AFYD**

#### **Report by Project Leader George Knight**

The Following is the East Renfrewshire Report for June 2013. East Renfrewshire at present only has Four Qualified coaches but with the assistance of 2 volunteers and with the help of Stewart Cameron and his staff from Renfrewshire AFYD we continue to deliver programmes and fishing trips.



### **TITCH**

The installed tanks within St Lukes High School (shared), and Eaglesham Primary School are continuing the TITCH programme. We continue to both involve Secondary School and Primary School children throughout East Renfrewshire in rearing brown trout from eggs to fry and fingerlings before release under licence.



### **EAST RENFREWSHIRE AFYD CONTINUED**

**Report by Project Leader George Knight**

#### **AFYD**

We have been busy here in East Renfrewshire over the last four months working in schools introducing 67 youngsters to angling through fishing programmes or through TITCH. We have also been working in conjunction with Renfrewshire AFYD at Erskine Hospital, which you can read about in the above article on Erskine Home. A good news story from our area is that our work at St. Luke's High School, Barrhead involving the Scottish Dynamic Youth Awards has meant that the school are now into the finals of this process, whether they win or not is not important to us only that the children concerned have by their own efforts achieved so much and it is this type of initiative and endeavour by young people that makes you proud to be a coach. I would like also at this time to praise the hard work and dedication of my coaches Sandy Crawford, John Mullen and John Stewart without whom all the work would not be possible. I would also like to thank my two volunteers Michael Bradshaw and John McDonald for their support in the past year.



#### **OUTINGS**

East Renfrewshire had trips mostly to Arranview Fishery in Ayrshire where our children caught 35 fish all of which were returned unharmed. Jack and Ann who run the fishery are extremely kind to the children and we would recommend that if you have a group of kids contact them and arrange a trip. Costs are usually quite reasonable. Why not give the fishery a try yourself see the website at <http://www.fisharound.net/where-to-fish/region/East-Ayrshire>

### **GLOUCESTER AFYD**

**Report by Project Leader Lucy Winterburn**

We have been lucky enough here in Gloucester to be given a local pond by the local Council to lease and renovate so that it is purpose built for us as an AFYD group. The pond is a large balancing pond that is full of fish and it has not been looked after in anyway in at least the last 7 years that I have been in the Police! My team here have worked remarkably hard to first clear the site and then build a walkway, platforms, bridges and then move over 35 tonnes of stone for the pathway! So may I in this newsletter give a huge and massive thank you to all of my team. Needless to say due to the amount of work at the pond there has not been much fishing however we have a long waiting list of children that are interested and they are helping with the pond renovation too! Last year in a 4 month period we had over 75 children fish through the project and I am confident it will be much more this year. We will be officially launching the pond hopefully sometime In July and we will make the trust aware of when this is happening.





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## **AFYD IRELAND**

### **Report by Deputy Project Leader Suzanne Campion**

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) hosted a work-shop in IFI Swords, Co. Dublin to discuss Youth Angling. The workshop was attended by representatives of the Irish Angling Federations, Sports Partnerships, Community Programme Unit of the Irish Youth Justice Service, Coaching Ireland, Association of Professional Game Angling Instructors (APGAI) Ireland, Game Angling Instructors Association (GAIA) and Blackrock Education Centre. The workshop considered the Angling for Youth Development (AFYD) Ireland proposal.



The Angling Council of Ireland, with assistance from IFI, ran a pilot AFYD Ireland programme with St Paul's Community School in Waterford and Minister Fergus O'Dowd presented the participants with certificates at Mount Juliet during an FAW event in May.

The St Paul's programme continues to thrive with 10 new entrants and extended support from local angling clubs an extension of the pilot included an eight week programme with a GARDA Youth Diversion Project. Our program was described by the senior care worker of the group as the most successful intervention she had worked with. The group have resourced a continuation of the programme and we continue to work with them.

## **ORKNEY AFYD**

### **Report by Project Leader Neil Ewing**

Orkney AFYD continues on the work reported in the last newsletter with 'Troot in the Shed', still a big success story and our work within the schools in Orkney continuing. I will give a fuller report when we complete our projects later this year probably in October.

## **PERTH AFYD**

### **Report by Project Leader James Munro**

We continue to work with children in the community and have an ongoing project at Dollar Academy. At present with two coaches and our work commitments we are limited in what we can do at present and will be trying to recruit more coaches or volunteers in the future.

## **RENFREWSHIRE AFYD**

### **Report by Project Leader Stewart Cameron**

A new initiative was launched in Renfrewshire at Erskine Home, Bishopton as reported earlier in this newsletter. Renfrewshire AFYD working in partnership with East Renfrewshire AFYD and members of SSACN on a regular basis attend and give an angling experience to the elderly residents. Some of whom are getting so good that we may actually ask them to become coaches. The staff are always delighted with our attendance and say our visits really cheer the residents up. We are hoping to take them on a fishing trip so here's hoping for a good story for the October addition. We continue to work with youngsters in local schools and have trained another 4 coaches in the last month. Our workload is increasing dramatically and our popularity grows within council circles.



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## STIRLINGSHIRE AFYD

### **Report by Project Leader Thomas Anderson**

We continue to work with children at Swanswater and now have started a project in Falkirk High School. This is early beginnings for our new group and a learning experience for us all. We hopefully will continue our early successes and give a more rounded report in the October Newsletter.

## WEST LOTHIAN AFYD

### **Report by Project Leader Cameron Denholm**

Youth Achievement awards continue to be worked on and EAZ fun days were a big hit with the primary schools in the area. We continue to work away with the children here in West Lothian we have recruited a new coach who was trained within the last month and we are looking to have liaison with other areas in the region. We are working on involvement in other schools and I will give a fuller update in October.



## **THAT ENDS THE HUB REPORTS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE READ ON**

## **SSACN SHARKATAG, ARDWELL, DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY Friday 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2013.**

Four of our members will be attending Sharkatag run by SSACN, to assist them and learn about the event. A report will appear in the October newsletter.

## APPRECIATION

Dear George

Thank you for getting the boys through the fishing course and taking them on a trip. The boys so enjoyed their day with the beautiful weather and the fish they caught. It is an experience they will never forget. They have all now received their youth awards and some want to continue angling. Thank you for the club contact details given to them. I had never been on a fishing trip before and I had no idea what an enjoyable experience it was.

Thank you once again  
Paula Madden  
St. Ninian's High School.

Dear Mr. Knight

I would like to thank you and your members for the enjoyable experience that you give my Uncle at Erskine on a Monday evening. He thoroughly enjoys the event and it has given him a great boost.















Keep up the good work

Yours sincerely  
Paul Gillespie  
Name and Address supplied.



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Finally and as always AFYD and TITCH could not exist without the help and support of our sponsors, suppliers and partners so **THANK YOU** to you all from the AFYD coaching staff, children and all our vulnerable people in helping AFYD to keep delivering a fun and educational experience in angling.

	THE KENMORE HOTEL AND CHARITY AUCTIONS		THE MACTAGGART THIRD FUND
	DAIWA SPORTS LTD.		DREAMSTORE
	FASTNET DEVELOPMENTS LTD		FLY FISHING & FLY TYING MAGAZINE
	GUIDE FISHING		REMPLOY (MARINE)
	SNOWBEE		TURRALL'S FLY'S
	BLAIRGOWRIE MASONIC LODGE		DAVIDSON'S CHEMISTS
	MOULIN HOTEL		RED HOUSE HOTEL
ALL THE ANGLING CLUBS WHO SUPPORT US		ALL THE ANGLING ORGANISATIONS THAT SUPPORT US	
ALL THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES THAT SUPPORT US		ALL THE POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES WHO SUPPORT US	
ALL THE LOCAL COUNCILLORS WHO SUPPORT US		ALL THE POLITICIANS WHO SUPPORT US	
ALL THE PARENTS WHO SUPPORT US		ALL THE CHILDREN WHO SUPPORT US	

## TOO YOU ALL WE SAY THANK YOU

All Enquiries to the Editor: George Knight AFYD Administrator Email [afyd@btinternet.com](mailto:afyd@btinternet.com)