



**XVIII COMMONWEALTH  
FLY FISHING  
COMPETITION 2018  
31st Aug - 8th Sep 2018  
NORTHERN IRELAND**



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí





0 1 2 3 4 5  
distance in miles



- ..... WILD ATLANTIC WAY
- ..... Cliff Walk Malin Head
- ..... Moville to Greencastle Walk
- ..... The Line Walk
- ..... Strabane Canal Walk
- ..... Longfield Walk
- ..... Ballykelly Bank Walk
- ..... Ballymacran Walk
- ..... Causeway Coastal Route
- ..... Greencastle- Magilligan Ferry Crossing
- ..... Railway Line
- ..... Fishing Harbours
- ..... Tourist Office
- ..... Riverwatch Aquarium
- ..... Prehen Boat House City of Derry Boat Club Foyle Paddlers
- ..... Foyle Marina Foyle Sailability
- ..... Fort George Canoe Steps
- ..... Fort George Jetty
- ..... Lough Foyle Yacht Club
- ..... Moville Sea Scouts Foyle Rowing Club Moville Boat Club

**Northern Lights**

Dolphin

Blue Fin Tuna

Tope

Atlantic Ocean

Common Seal

Fishing Boat

Atlantic Salmon

Sea Trout

Thomas D'Arcy McGee exiled to Canada where he became a prominent politician

Armada Wreck La Trinidad Valencera from 1588 Spanish Armada

Killer Whale

Seals Basking

Inishowen Head

Shrove Beach

Lough Foyle RNLI Lifeboat Station (1854 - 1922)

Northburg Castle

Ferry

Magilligan Point

Benone Beach

Martello Towers

Blowkarting

Kitesurfing

Mussenden Temple

The Tuns off Magilligan Birthplace of Sea God Manannan

Binevenagh Cliff

Benone Native Birds

Tern

Sanderling

Oyster Catcher

Green Shank

Curlew

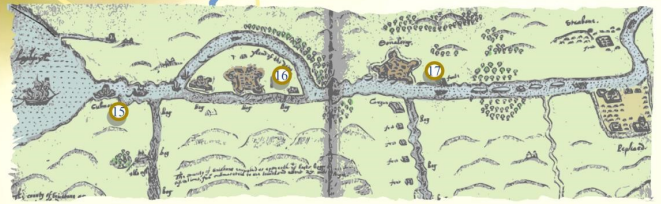
**Binevenagh**  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

- 8 Inishowen Maritime Museum and Planetarium
- 9 The Ark
- 10 Bellarena Railway Halt
- 11 Base One Europe- Beech Hill Museum

- Map of the Foyle Circa 1600
- 15 Castle and earthworks at Culmore Point
  - 16 Old city and bog area with earthworks
  - 17 Castle and earthworks at Dunnalong

Derry had a leading role in winning the Battle of the Atlantic in World War 2. Canadian, US and British navy ships, based on the Foyle, escorted Atlantic convoys, supported by 'planes flying from bases around Lough Foyle.

- 12 Eglinton
- 13 Maydown
- 14 Limavady



Loughs Agency

# Foyle

## Discovery Map



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# TROUT ANGLERS' FEDERATION OF IRELAND

*The Official National Governing Organisation*

*Established 1931*



## **MISSION**

*The Trout Anglers' Federation of Ireland aspires to organise trout angling clubs on the island of Ireland and to represent and support them in the pursuit of the sport of trout angling in all its' traditions.*

## **OBJECTIVES**

- (i) To promote the sport of trout angling in all its traditions.
- (ii) To advocate on behalf of the affiliated Clubs or Associations.

To take part in national and international trout angling events.

To nurture the participation of children in trout angling.

To advance the ideals of trout conservation

To participate in the development of trout fisheries.

To seek to protect the angling environment.

To cultivate a spirit of co-operation with kindred organisations.

## **GOVERNANCE**

Proper and effective governance of the Federation is affected through its Constitution and the implementation of TAFI Policies. The TAFI Policies are subject to a review period of 3 years to ensure that they reflect best practice in good governance and are relevant to the particular issues affecting TAFI.

A TAFI Policy shall not undermine this Constitution. Subsequent issues of governance on which this Constitution is silent and which are not the subject of specific TAFI Policies shall, in the first instance, be brought to Central Council for consideration and then referred to the Strategic Policy Committee





**A message from the Chairman of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Councillor Howard Thornton for the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Competition 2018**

As Chairman of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the district to all the competitors and visitors attending the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Competition 2018.

This is the first time that the event has been held in Northern Ireland and we, in the Fermanagh and Omagh district, are proud and delighted that, through this competition, we will be afforded the opportunity to showcase to an international audience the excellent fishing which is available in the Fermanagh and Omagh area.

International fishing competitions are not new to Fermanagh and Omagh, indeed the Quiggery River near Fintona and Loughmacrory Lough, two of the locations for this competition, were also used as part of the World Youth Fly Fishing Championships in 2013 while the waters of Fermanagh provided the venues for the USIC Angling Championship in 2017 which attracted teams and individuals from nine European countries.

The district also plays host annually to two long-established major fishing competitions, the week-long Classic Fishing Festival which takes place in May and is now in its 43<sup>rd</sup> year and the Erne Pike Classic which takes place over a weekend in October and is in its 13<sup>th</sup> year. Both events regularly attract hundreds of anglers including many international competitors to the waterways in and around Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh.

We in the Fermanagh and Omagh District, are proud of our tremendous tourism product and we are always delighted to extend our world-renowned hospitality to visitors to the area. While the competitors may only have a little free time to relax and explore the natural beauty of our district, they will certainly be welcome to return for a more leisurely stay and avail of the opportunity to indulge in some wonderful recreational fishing available across the district.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council supports event and festival organisers as part of its wider strategic Events and Festivals framework to attract major events to the district and to showcase what the Fermanagh and Omagh district has to offer. The Council is delighted to sponsor such a prestigious International event, and I would like to thank the Trout Angling Federation of Ireland – Ulster Branch, for choosing Omagh as the base for the competition and for using Loughmacrory Lough and the Quiggery River as two of the competition venues.

I would like to extend my best wishes to all those participating in the competition and that a good week of sport is enjoyed by all.

Councillor Howard Thornton  
Chairman, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council



## **A Welcome from the Chairman of TAFI Ulster Mr Darren Wallace.**

I am delighted to formally welcome all the teams taking part in the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship. from 31st Aug to the 8th Sep 2018 in Northern Ireland.

TAFI are the official representative of Ireland in International Trout Fly Fishing and is one of the founding members of the FIPS Mouche which is the fly fishing arm of CIPS the World regulating body for competitive fishing in all disciplines. CIPS fulfils the same function in fishing as the Olympic Council does in athletic sport.

TAFI organises angling competitions for youths and seniors every year across Ireland with the winners representing Ireland at the Four Nations Bank Competition (Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales), European, Commonwealth and World Fly Fishing Championships. This event is being organised and hosted in Northern Ireland for the first time by the TAFI Ulster Angling Council.

The hosting of this prestigious event is the result of many years of dedicated voluntary work by TAFI members, both promoting senior and youth angling in Ireland and also sending teams to fish in the World and European Championships.

Our International FIPS-Mouche Representative is Mr Denis Cronin who has been lobbying other member countries and individuals over the last number of years to get a TAFI team into the Commonwealth Competitions.

Indeed the NI Team competed for the first time in Tasmania in 2012 gaining a creditable 3rd Team place and Individual runner up. In 2014 they again achieved a 3rd Team place and Individual runner up, They were just piped out of the same placing in Canada in 2016 finishing 4th in the Team event and gaining 5th and 6th Individual places.

This year the opening ceremony is being held in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh on Sunday 2nd Sep. The Silverbirch Hotel is the championship headquarters for the duration of the Competition.

Official practice will be held on Friday 31st Aug and Saturday 1st Sep followed by three days of competition fishing on 4th, 5th and 6th of Sep. Venues include two rivers and three lakes which are spread over the counties of Antrim, Tyrone and Londonderry.

The Silverbirch Hotel will also host the closing ceremony on Friday 7th Sep 2018 In addition a schools education day will be hosted by Angling NI, Loughs Agency and DAERA with conservation-orientated symposium on the same day. The Commonwealth Fly Tying and Fly Casting competitions will also be held at the Omagh Leisure Centre in parallel with the schools event..

On behalf of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, I wish the 2018 Commonwealth Fly-Fishing Championship anglers, their mentors and supporters, a Céad Míle Fáilte (a hundred thousand welcomes) to Northern Ireland.

Darren Wallace  
Chairman,  
T.A.F.I. Ulster





## Welcome from the TAFI Ulster organiser.

On behalf of the organising committee for the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, Ulster Angling Council, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all the participating teams their mentors and supporters to the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships 2018.

This is a unique competition which is being hosted in Northern Ireland for the first time and we are delighted to welcome our fellow Commonwealth Fly Fishers to Northern Ireland. Thank you for making the journey here to represent your countries. I hope you have an enjoyable time here with us.

It was two years ago when Jill Manderno and I shook hands after the unanimous decision taken at the AGM in Canada to award the XVIII Competition to Northern Ireland.

Since then it has been a journey of discovery in many ways, from hosting Jill around the venues in July 2017 (and getting lost once or twice!!) to where we are today, up and running.

The competition will be fished in the true traditions of the Commonwealth Fly Fishers motto "Fishing in Friendship" and using the FIPS Mouche rules that we all understand, which is also to spread friendship through angling throughout the World.

As competitive anglers representing your Countries you all share a common interest and a strong bond in your love for angling. In spite of the hugely competitive nature of this competition and the great desire to excel, to be the best in your sport, we hope that the friendships forged here in Northern Ireland will endure and endure for a lifetime.

We hope your experience of our wide variety of Trout angling justifies our reputation as being the premier Trout angling destination in Europe, if not the World and when you depart our shores we would be hopeful that you would promote Northern Ireland as a worthwhile angling destination.

It would be very wrong of me to claim that setting up this competition has been all my own work. It has not. I have enjoyed tremendous support from numerous people; too many to mention but a few in particular are worth of mention. Mr David Mann and his team from DAERA, Mr Kevil Wilson and his team from the Loughs Agency. The clubs and owners of the competition venues for allowing us to use their waters for the competition.

Finally, may I wish each and every one of you a very successful XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship 2018 and I hope it will be enjoyable, rewarding and a competitive championship for you all.

Alan R McDade  
TAFI Ulster Organiser.



## **Programme from 31st Aug to 8th Sep**

(Programme is subject to change & confirmation)

### **Friday 31st Aug 2018**

0900 –1800 Official Practice on Competition waters.

### **Sunday 2nd Sep 2018**

15.00 Check In to Silverbirch Hotel.  
18.00 Opening Ceremony.  
18.30 Family & Team Photographs.  
19.00 Welcome drinks reception.  
19.30 Welcome Dinner.  
21.00 Entertainment.

### **Tuesday 4th Sep 2018**

05.00 Breakfast  
06.00 First Buses Depart  
07.00 Second Buses Depart  
09.00 - 12.00 Session 1  
12.00 - 15.00 Lunch & Change Venues  
15.00 - 18.00 Session 2  
18.00 - 19.45 Return to Hotel  
19.30 - Evening Dinner  
20.30 - Captains meeting.

### **Thursday 6th Sep 2018**

05.00 - Breakfast  
06.00 - First Buses Depart  
07.00 - Second Buses Depart  
09.00 -12.00 Session 1  
12.00 - 15.00 Lunch & Change Venues  
15.00 - 18.00 Session 2  
18.00 - 19.45 Return to Hotel  
19.30 - Evening Dinner  
20.30 - Captains meeting.

### **Saturday 8th Sep 2018**

07.30 - 09.00 Breakfast  
11.00 - Check Out and Farewells

### **Saturday 1st Sep 2018**

0900 –1800 Official Practice on Competition waters.

### **Monday 3rd Sep 2018**

07.30 Breakfast  
09.30 Captains Meeting & Draw  
10.30 Captains meeting concludes  
19.30 Evening Dinner

### **Wednesday 5th Sep 2018**

07.30 Breakfast  
09.00 -12.00 Free Time  
12.00 - Buses Depart for Venues  
15.00 -18.00 Session 3  
18.00 - 19.45 Return to Hotel  
19.30 - Evening Dinner  
20.30 - Captains meeting.

### **Friday 7th Sep 2018**

07.30 - 08:30 Breakfast  
09:30 - 15:30 Schools Workshop  
10.00 - 13.00 Fly Casting Competition  
10.00 - 13.00 Fly Tying Competition  
15.00 - 16.00 Symposium  
16.00 - 17.00 CFFA AGM  
19.00 - 19.30 Drinks  
19.30 - 21.00 Awards Dinner  
21.00 - 21.45 Awards Presentation  
21.45 - 00:30 Entertainment

**Note:** The Commonwealth Fly Casting and Fly Tying Competitions are generously sponsored by **Fermanagh & Omagh District Council**







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Ruby Anniversary

2018 marks a very special milestone year, as the Duncan Family celebrate their 40th year as proprietors of one of the leading hotels in Northern Ireland!



Spa & Stay Special Offers

Spa Breaks in association with Spa By The Sperrins, perfect for Romantic Spa Breaks, Girls Getaways & Hen Parties!



What's On? Event Calendar

View our online bustling events calendar to find out events taking place in the hotel & nearby!

EXPAND

## Welcome to Silverbirch Hotel & Business Centre



The General Manager and Staff of the **Silverbirch Hotel & Business Centre** welcome all the Commonwealth Officials, Competitors and Supporters staying with us in our Hotel in Omagh.

We hope you will have an enjoyable stay here with us and if there is anything we can do to make your stay even more enjoyable then do please let us know and we will endeavour to comply with your request.

You will of course be welcome back anytime so do check out our web site [www.silverbirchhotel.com](http://www.silverbirchhotel.com)

Best wishes and "Tight Lines" to all the competitors.

**Liam Mc Elhinney**  
General Manager

## Loughmacrory & Murrins District Angling Associ-



**L&MDAA**



**The Loughmacrory & Murrin's District Angling Association** control the water of Loughmacrory.

Loughmacrory anglers were formed in 2009 and has since gone from strength to strength and grown into one of the top venues for visiting anglers from across the globe.

We pride ourselves on our dedication and commitment to angling and paving the way for future generations of anglers to follow in our footsteps.

As a non-profit club we rely heavily on a hard working, forward thinking committee to help maintain our status as an angling hub for Northern Ireland.

Loughmacrory is a 55 acre lough situated in the small village of Loughmacrory in County Tyrone with a scenic 1.3 mile walkway around its border.

Our keenly priced day tickets and season tickets are available in our local shop with the added option of hiring one of our high quality resident 19ft Sheelin boats with only electric engines permitted.

We have a number of species in our lake such as wild brown trout, stocked rainbow trout, perch, pike and eels with all legal methods of fishing permitted.

Fishing is easily accessible from either bank or boat due to our recently installed high spec family/disabled friendly jetties, with our new clubhouse also available as a place of rest from the elements or for the compulsory tea break.



# Woodford Fly Fishery

**12c Woodburn Road, Carrickfergus, BT38 8PX**

**Tel: (028) 9336 0225**



Woodford Fly Fishery can be found in tranquil settings, nestling in the shadow of the WW1 Knockagh Monument. Situated on the Woodburn Road, Carrickfergus.

It has been established for over 30 years, providing a service to the local community and visiting anglers from as far away as Europe, Australia, South Africa, America, Great Britain and all 4 corners of Ireland.

The Fly Lake is stocked with premium trout ranging from 1.5lb to 17lb in weight and also has a well stocked on-site tackle shop with fishing gear from Greys, JMC, Airflo, Wychwood, Rio and tying gear from Veniard, Flybox and Irish Fly Supplies.

The present proprietor, Darren Wallace, has been involved with the fishery for over 20 years both as a member and proprietor. Woodford is seen as a safe haven for junior anglers, who are encouraged and helped by the senior anglers to learn and develop their fishing skills because if you teach a child to fish you have given them a skill for life, which gives the kids an extra focus for their free time.

Woodford has also featured in the major national fly fishing magazines, Irish Angler, Total Fly Fisher and Trout Fisherman promoting local tourism. Everyone get a very warm welcome at Woodford.

Woodford would also hold regular fly-fishing competitions, attracting anglers from all over Ireland. In the past few years Woodford has hosted the World Youth Fly Fishing Championships, International Stillwater Bank Championships, TAFI All Ireland Interprovincial Championships as well as the Ulster Stillwater Championships.

This year we are looking forward to welcoming the teams from the Commonwealth Countries to Woodford Fly Fishery and hope that everyone has an enjoyable stay in Northern Ireland.

## Quiggery River (Finore Anglers Association)



The Finore Angling Association was formed in 2012 to protect and promote the Quiggery and Seskinore rivers. There had been no club on these rivers since the 1970's.

A very large number of local landowners agreed to permit access to club members with the help of local community leaders.

After a large amount of habitat improvement was carried out in the form of croys, bankside planting and new stock fencing with stiles the river hosted the World Youth Fly Fishing Competition in 2013.

The quality and quantity of brown trout caught in the club's rivers has been steadily improving year on year thanks to continued habitat improvement and is frequently used as a venue for regional and national competitions.

We hope that those attending the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Competition 2018 will enjoy fishing our river.

David Spencer  
Secretary



## STRAID FLY FISHERY

With a reputation for class fish in both our fly lakes it makes it hard to choose anywhere else for quality and price. Everyone is welcome. Our emphasis is on QUALITY, well finned, hard fighting rainbow trout. Anglers may choose to fish from one of our fourteen boats or bank fish.



These are exciting times at Co. Antrim's largest privately run fishery. Our 3 Lakes cater for a wide variety of angler:

Our Main 20 Acre Fly Fishing Lake - with a fleet of 14 boats and 1200m of accessible bank angling available features a lake which holds rainbow trout into double figures.

NEW - 2 Acre Discover Lake - where Family Fishing Fun is our aim. Reserved for families only (1 adult per 2 under 12's. This ANY METHOD lake is perfect for families to be introduced to our sport.

NEW - Horsetail Retreat Carp & Tench Lake - this specialist lake holds double figure carp. It's a members only facility for bait angling but pre-booked fly sessions are available.

Straid Fishery has built a reputation for making superb quality fishing available to the public. Concentrating our efforts on quality stocking, clean and comfortable facilities and competitive prices has seen anglers travel to us from near and far.

Banks and paths have been cleared to allow easy access to the lake's margins. Anglers with restricted mobility can be transported by staff to their choice of fishing stand.

Enjoy the comforts of home in our newly modernised tea room where complimentary tea, coffee and microwave facilities are available. You are welcome to come in for a rest and browse our fishing books and magazines.

Refurbished Ladies and Gents toilets are available 30 yds from the tea room.

Contact us: [info@straidfishery.com](mailto:info@straidfishery.com)

Tel: 028 9303 8721

[www.straidfishery.com](http://www.straidfishery.com)



**STRAID**  
F I S H E R Y



## DENNETT RIVER

The Burn Dennett River often referred to just as “The Dennett” is a small to medium sized river. The source of the river starts in the Sperrin Mountains in County Tyrone and flows in a N-W direction until it reaches the village of Donemana, where it flows North West into the River Foyle.

Dennett Anglers Association Donemana, Co. Tyrone has 15miles, (24km) of both banks fishing. The river is perhaps best known for its sea trout, which are at their peak from June to August.

Brown trout are best fished for in June and July as a spate is fining down. Tackle shop in nearby town of Strabane. Nearest Village: Donemana (*Dunamanagh*).

How to get there: Near the village of Donemana (*Dunamanagh*) and the main Londonderry/Strabane Road. Season: 20th May – 20th October.

Methods: Fly, spinning, worm. Best Flies: Sedges, Klinkhammers, Hawthorn Flies, Large dark olives,



Iron blue dun, Small dark olives Nymphs & General May fly patterns, May – June.

Permit: An unlimited number of day tickets.

For more information contact: Loughs Agency, 22 Victoria Road, Londonderry, BT47 2AB.

Tel: (028) 7134 2100, Rol (048) 7134 2100

Facebook: Dennett Anglers Association



**Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 September 2018**

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# AUSTRALIA GREEN



**Craig Coltman, Captain/Angler**

Craig first represented Australia at the WFFC held in Ireland in 1995. Since then Craig has gone on to represent Australia at 21 internationals and has captained the teams on many occasions at both WFFC and CFFC. He is looking forward to try and fool the Trout of Northern Ireland and catch up with old friends and make new ones at the CFFC. Craig works as a fly fishing guide for Rainbow Lodge in Tasmania and Millbrook Lakes in Victoria.



**Doug Mosenthal, Angler**

Doug is married to Kerry, with three teenage children & works as a public accountant in Kingston, Tasmania. He has been a keen fly fisher & fly tyer for 35 years and involved in competition fly fishing for 7 years since helping to organise the 2012 Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships in Tasmania, where he was also a controller on the South Esk River. The things he values most from competition fly fishing are the great friendships and the steep learning curve, from boat handling to the importance of avoiding the blank! The Commonwealth's in Northern Ireland will be his first international competition as a competitor.



**Craig Dawson, Angler**

Craig started Fly Fishing at 12 years of age. Largely inspired by his brother, this will be his third cap for Australia. Craig's home waters are in the Snowy Mountains, ultimately his favourite location for trout fishing, 27 years of Fly Fishing has taken Craig to some amazing overseas locations including Slovenia, Canada, New Zealand and Fiji. Being involved in competition fly fishing has been a great adventure and journey that has provided Craig with the opportunity to meet some extraordinary anglers, coaches, mentors and friends.



**Stephen Chatterton, Angler**

Chatto as he prefers to be called describes himself as "a journeyman fly fisher that has been lucky enough, and honored, to be selected to represent Australia in a number of World, Commonwealth and Oceania Championships". He has been very involved in the administration of Fly Fish Australia where he is a life member and in 2017 stood down from the role of President of after 13 years at the coal face.

Domiciled in Queensland and NSW he enjoys fly fishing for trout, bass and many salt water species.



**Geoff Naylor, Angler**

Geoff lives in the small country town of Tumut on the banks of the Tumut River, in the Riverina region of New South Wales and on the North West foothills of the Snowy Mountains, approximately 410 kilometers south west of Sydney and 525 kilometers north east of Melbourne. He started fly fishing at 12 and has represented Australia in World, Commonwealth and Oceania Fly Fishing Championships, where "you are always learning and meeting new people, seeing new countries and new places". Geoff is looking forward to experiencing Northern Ireland's fabled fishing, meeting the people and seeing another great place.



# AUSTRALIA GOLD



**Mark Youngman**, *Team Manager/Reserve*

Mark lives at Relbia near Launceston, Tasmania and caught his first trout on a dry red tag fly on the St Patrick's River at the age of 14 and has been hooked ever since. Favorite spots are the Cowpaddock and Lillies sections of Arthurs Lake and Little Pine Lagoon at dun time both situated in the Central Highlands of Tasmania. He enjoys fishing the many rivers near home including the Liffey, St Patrick's, Meander, Mersey, North and South Esk. He has fished for Australian Teams in Rotorua, Drymen and the Isle of Islay, Scotland. Happily married to Genevieve and has two lovely daughters, Amelia (19) and Charlotte (16), with lots of netball and equestrian.



**Tim Urbanc** *Angler*

Tim started fishing aged 13 having grown up in Tasmania. During the 1990s he started guiding anglers and learners at the world famous London Lakes Lodge in Tasmania. Tim started competition fishing in 1996 and won the Australian Championships in 2000. He has since competed in the Australian World Team in England in 2000 and Sweden in 2001. He so fished in the Oceanic Championships in 2006 in New Zealand. More recently he was part of the Australian team competing in the inaugural World Masters Championships in Chile in 2014. This is his first time in a Commonwealth Team and he is looking forward to meeting other competing teams in Northern Ireland in 2018



**Janis (John) Kruska** *Angler*

John lives in Melbourne, Victoria and is representing Australia for the first time. He has been fly fishing for 15 years, the last 10 in competition fishing and is a qualified casting instructor. He also loves saltwater fly fishing for giant trevally, queen fish and barramundi and his favorite place is Lucinda in North Queensland, south of Cairns. His parents originally moved to Wodonga on the mighty Murray River from Latvia. John particularly loves fishing Australian waters and has also been to Christmas Island bone fishing.

(As a note he was bitten by a Tiger snake in the last Tasmanian lake competition, he was quickly helicoptered to Hobart Hospital from the Central Highlands. He is lucky to have survived and is ok)



**Craig Shipton** *Angler*

Craig, started fishing since the age of about 6 on my parents farm, only took up fly fishing in the 1990's by teaching myself from Gary Borgers videos.

Started competition fishing in 2009, where I now have had 3 top 15 finishes at the Australian fly-fishing National Championships.

Best finishing was in 2nd in 2016.

Also love salt water fishing which I also compete in the Game Fishing Comps.



**Grant Flowers** *Angler*

Always been a keen fisher of all forms. I took up fly fishing about 15 years ago and competition a couple of years later. Represented Australia only once at Oceania's 2009, best competition result Australian Nationals 2010 finished 3rd.

Love saltwater fly fishing. Happily married with 3 boys, live at Montana in Tasmania earning a living as a Self-employed Mechanic.

A high light in my time was guiding the Singapore Team before the 2012 Commonwealth championships and the 2013 Australian Nationals which my Son, Josh won.



**John Fisher** *Angler*

As a competition fly angler I have been lucky enough to represent my country on several occasions on the international arena and enjoy the thought of fishing with and sharing experiences with fellow anglers from around the globe. I am keen to share in the camaraderie associated with fly fishing with likeminded anglers at the upcoming Commonwealth Championships in Northern Ireland. I must also say I am looking forward to experiencing some of that famous humor and hospitality for which your country is famous. Lastly and most importantly I am looking forward to experiencing some of the world class fly fishing for which Northern Ireland is renowned. Tight lines everyone, see you soon.

## CANADA WHITE



**John Beaven**, *Team Manager*

John was a keen angler by the time he was five years old. Mainly worms and bread dough in those days! He was given his first fly rod at 16 and has been fly fishing ever since. His first international championship was the Commonwealth in Australia in 1999. Despite a dismal personal performance, he was hooked and has since competed in seven World Championships and five Commonwealth Championships. He coached the Canadian Youth team in France and Ireland with his good friend, Donald Thom. He feels the best part of competition fishing is the friends you make and the amazing places you visit.



**Donald Thom**, *Team Captain*

Donald is one of the old guard having competed internationally since the world in Canada in 1993. He has 13 caps and coached the youth team for several years. He has 3 top 10 international finishes including vice world champion in 2009. He is the captain of the Commonwealth team. When he is not fishing he is hunting somewhere in North America with his English Setters. He lives on a farm in the Gatineau hills with his wife Nancy and builds custom homes.



**Ivo Balinov**, *Angler*

Ivo started fishing at the age of six. After years of European course and spin fishing he eventually discovered fly-fishing and never looked back. Ivo has been active on the Canadian competitive fly-fishing scene as an instructor, competitor and organiser, and lately as a member of the Board of Fly Fishing Canada. Following two World Championships and one Commonwealths this will be his fourth international cap for Canada. He looks at competitions as an opportunity to learn from everyone and is looking forward to meeting and fishing with anglers from all countries.



**Todd Oishi**, *Angler*

Currently president of Fly Fishing Canada and the founder/president of a chapter of Trout Unlimited in south-west British Columbia. Todd manages his Auto Body Collision Repair and Restoration Shop, and operates a small hobby farm in the town of Maple Ridge. Todd Oishi has been blessed to have fished the rivers, lakes, and oceans of fourteen countries for a wide variety of freshwater and saltwater fish species, and has had the honour of being selected to compete as a member of Team Canada for 7 World Fly Fishing Championships; 4 Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships; 3 United States Fly Fishing Championships. Being involved with the sport of competitive fly fishing has been a great adventure and journey that has provided him with the opportunity to meet some extraordinary anglers, coaches, teammates, mentors, and people that he is fortunate enough to call friends.





**Mike Learmonth, Reserve Angler**

After 3 years of competitive fly fishing, Mike is excited to attend his first International fly fishing competition as a member of Team Canada White. As a young kid he spent his summers on Vancouver Island fishing for Salmon and bottom fish. At the age of 18, he bought his first fly rod and began what has now become a 30 year love affair. For the last 24 years, Mike has worked in the Investment industry as a Wealth Adviser. He sits on the Board of Directors for Fly Fishing Canada as well as The Southwestern BC Chapter of Trout Unlimited. He is excited for the opportunity to join an amazing group of anglers and represent Canada at the 2018 Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships in Northern Ireland.



**Ian Troup, Angler**

I'm excited to attend my third international cap as a member of Team Canada, having represented Canada at the previous Commonwealth Championships. Ian Troup - banking professional for over 20 years, while my day job is banking my passion is fly fishing competition and instruction. I'm an FFF certified casting instructor and have run a Fly fishing guiding business for over 10 years along with being a pro-staff at a private still water club. I've been an active competitor at the National and Provincial level since 2006, and coached the first all women team to compete in a Canadian Championship. Proud to have been a member of the Gold medal team at the most recent Commonwealth Fly Fishing championships



**Colin Huff, Angler**

Colin began fly fishing at a very young age as his father was a seasoned fly fishing guide with Team Canada member. Colin began his competitive fly fishing career at age 13 where his team captured the silver medal at the Canadian Nationals. A large part of Colin's growth and experience as an angler is credited to guys like Donald Thom, John Beaven, Randy Taylor and his father, John Huff. Now 23 years old he has just received his diploma as an environmental technician. He works for Woodside Agency which represents Simms Fishing products, Lamson and Rajeff Sports. He is excited to represent team Canada in his third CWFFC and play a part in helping his team defend their title.



**David Forgeron, Angler**

As a returning team member of the 2016 Gold Medal Team, it is a privilege to represent Canada again at the Commonwealths. This is my third time in this competition and I have enjoyed the competitive scene for the last nine years. I am looking forward to new adventures and the friends to be made in Northern Ireland.

**CANADA  
RED**



**Ken McCauley, Team Captain & Angler**

I live in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, located on the east coast of Canada. I was first introduced to fishing by my grandfather and since then I have been hooked on fly fishing for trout and salmon. In addition to fishing, I have been active on the boards and executive of several non-profit sport fishing groups. I will be representing Canada for the fourth time at this competition and I am looking forward to the opportunity to fish with competitors from around the Commonwealth.

### **Sorin Comsa, Angler**



I am a software quality engineer for a major bank (that's where the money are... right?!). I have been fishing for over 40 years and fly-fishing in competitions for about 30.

Over the years I have fished for perch, pike, walleye, carp, bass, rainbow trout, brook/speckled trout, brown trout, marble trout, whitefish, European grayling, bonefish and tarpon. I competed at these World Fly-fishing Championships: 1992 – Italy; 2004 – Slovakia; 2005 – Sweden; 2010 – Poland; 2011 – Italy; 2014 – Czech Republic and competed at these Commonwealth Championships: 2009 – Islay, Scotland ; 2016 - Mont Tremblant, Canada (Individual Silver).

I have also won several team and individual National level medals. I am the Canadian distributor for Dohiku barbless hooks through my website: [www.successfulangler.com](http://www.successfulangler.com) .

I am looking forward to learning more and making new friends at the 2018 Commonwealth Fly-fishing Championship!

### **Tom Irvine, Angler**



I live in Gravenhurst Ontario, Canada, a small town in cottage country two hours north of Toronto. Fishing has been part of my life since I was old enough to crawl around the floor of a boat. I have been fly fishing for over 40 years and fly fishing competitively since the Oceania championship in Tasmania in 2002.

I have represented Canada at one Commonwealth championship in Scotland in 2004, two Oceania championships and four World championships. I compete regularly in our national competitions and fly fish recreationally for many species of fish.

My father's family all came to Canada by ship from Northern Ireland in the early 1900's so I feel very pleased and privileged to be able to compete in this Commonwealth Championship in Northern Ireland, to fish in the land of my Irish ancestors and to meet the many people who will take part in the competition while renewing old acquaintances and making new friends.

### **Peter J Morrison, Angler**



I am honoured to be selected to represent Team Canada in the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Ireland. Fly fishing has been my life-long passion. Born in the East Kootenays in beautiful British Columbia, Canada I have had many opportunities to fish the numerous mountain rivers, lakes and streams.

Besides fly fishing for trout in my home waters, I have fished for pike in Manitoba, rockfish in Washington, sailfish in Costa Rica, dorado in the Florida Keys and bonefish in Belize, Bahamas and, my all-time favorite salt water destination, Christmas Island! In 2009 I entered my first fly fishing competition. At the North American Loch Style Fly Fishing Championships, I won individual silver in 2015 and Team Bronze in 2017. Adding Ireland to my fly fishing career is both challenging and exciting (just like fishing!.)

I am looking forward to visiting a new country, meeting new people and fishing new places. When I am not casting a line on the water you will find me bidding my time at the local pulp mill as an Electrician.

### **Gerald Wolfe, Angler**



Gerald has been an avid fly fisherman since he can remember. Living in a small mountainous town in BC, Gerald has become very familiar with the seasonal changes and the places to find wild salmon, trout, and char.

A Professional Forester by training and when not guiding on the local rivers, Gerald runs a successful natural resource management consulting business in Squamish BC. Gerald is actively involved with Search and Rescue and is trained in First Aid and Swift Water Rescue. Gerald has been fly fishing for over 30 years and competitively for over 5 years.

He has competed at many regional events and is a three time competitor at the North American Loch-Style championships that has been held in British Columbia. Gerald is very excited for the opportunity to be part of the Commonwealth experience and is looking forward to learning from competitors from all around the world.



## CHANNEL ISLANDS



### **Richard Emery, Captain (non fishing)**

Richard, 60, originally from UK spent 30 years in the Channel Islands with a background in motor engineering with motor sport as another hobby and has now returned to what he calls gods own country. Yorkshire. where he spends his spare time focused on his real passion of dry fly fishing not only on the beautiful rivers there but unusually seeking out trout in difficult and urban environments.

Fly tying is another passion which has served the team well on occasions. Richard is a colourful, flamboyant and great addition to the team where his great humour and endeavour led to the legendary Yorkshire tea bag tossing competition !!

### **Bob McGinnigle, Angler**



Bob has a real passion for angling be it game , sea and coarse and has been a member of the Jersey Freshwater Angling Association (JFAA) for over 30 years becoming Chairman then President in recent years. Bob fished extensively in number of countries but with competition experience limited to the Channel Islands ,UK and France he is looking forward to meeting the Commonwealth teams in a spirit of friendship and friendly competition .

He is a Level 2 Angling Trust Coach and is involved in running the Community Junior Angling Programme and angling for visitors to Jersey for those interested from Holidays for Heroes .He enjoys getting his hands dirty and is involved in working parties including helping run the JFAA local trout hatchery. Bob is married to Sheila with two grown up children and two grandchildren and is now semi retired having worked in both public and private sectors in Jersey for some 40 years in finance and operational roles as an accountant.

He had an active involvement over many years in sport which included sub-aqua ,badminton, tennis, windsurfing, football refereeing , golf and bowling this interest led to him holding the position of Chairman Jersey Island Games association and subsequently Treasurer of the International Island Games Association and is an Honorary Life member of both. Bob couldn't believe his luck when his daughter married a very keen angler and, with no rivers on any of the Channel Islands, thoughts of the Jamaican Bobsleigh Team spring to mind !!

### **Darren L'Enfant, Angler**



Darren is 52 years of age, he has a long term partner Jane, and he has worked for the Jersey Post for 14 years, the past 10 as a manager.

Darren has been Fly Fishing for in excess of 20 years, living on an Island with no rivers; he has fished mostly reservoirs, with the occasional trip to the U.K fishing still waters. In the past 2 years he has been river fishing in Wales, entering a couple of competitions.

Darren has been fishing his local league competition for several years, winning it in 2016 and always finishing in the top 3.

Darren is very much looking forward to this competition and is very honoured to represent the Channel Islands.

**Peter Evans, Angler**



Peter's passion for fly fishing started more than 30 years ago in the scenic region of Mpumalanga, South Africa. The introduction to the sport came from his father, an avid fly-fisher and together many a water was explored and adventure had. This in turn afforded Peter the opportunity to fish local waters and participates in domestic events. The close proximity of trout waters on the island lends itself to frequent fishing opportunities, collaborating with fellow anglers and a passionate fishing fraternity.

This is Peter's first international event, and is extremely honoured to be part of the team. As Peter has followed in the footsteps of his father, he is equally proud that his young daughter and understanding wife share the same love of the sport and nature. Perhaps one day his daughter will represent Jersey in a ladies team

**Serge Le Moeligou, Angler**



Serge has fished everything from minnows to Marlin in Europe, USA, Canada and down under for pleasure having come late to competitive fly fishing after retirement keen to give everything a go. started fly fishing about forty years ago having a home in both Jersey and France has enabled him to have access to a variety of waters in lakes and rivers. best competition result to date was ninth in the Orvis open at Chew (boat partnered John Horsey, good choice). Most recent and best experience to date fishing The Grand Cascapedia river in Canada 2017 capturing a nice Atlantic Salmon.

**David Duncan, Angler**



David is a Jersey resident and has a career in dentistry and orthodontics; he has been fly fishing since the age of 4 and fished extensively for Salmon, trout, sea-trout and grayling with the occasional foray into the "Salt" where he has fly fished for Bonefish, Tarpon and Redfish (fly caught as shown) and amongst other fishing locations is a syndicate member on The Test.





## ENGLAND MEN



**Dave Grove**, Manager & Angler

I have represented my country in World, Commonwealth and European events since 1986 and have been in every commonwealth competition since 1994. Out of them all I can honestly say that the commonwealth is the best and have enjoyed every one of them, not only the fishing and wonderful destinations, but also the people and friends I have made. On behalf of the English team I would like to thank Alan and his team and wish them every success for this championship and for all the hard work they have put into it



**Andrew Gooding**, Captain & Angler

Andrew started fly fishing at the age of eight and represented England at the Youth World Fly Casting Championships winning gold in numerous events. He has since fly fished for England many times and represented England in the European Championships. This will be his fourth Commonwealth competition and he is looking forward to fishing in Northern Ireland and meeting new and old friends.



**John Tyzack**, Angler

John is a professional fly fishing guide and instructor who has been fly fishing for 40 years and represented England at International level for nearly 20 of those years. This is his fourth CFFC following on from Tasmania 2012, England 2014 and Canada in 2016



**Matt Kingdon**, Angler

Matt was born and bred in North Devon and started his fishing journey at the age of seven on local rivers, fly fishing for brown trout. Fishing has obsessed him since leaving school and he has worked on fish farms and fisheries; now he spends his time growing fish to re-stock some the major English reservoirs. Last year he represented England for the first time in the loch style team in which the team won the gold medal. He is very much looking forward to his first Commonwealth competition in Northern Ireland.



### **Steve Ebdon, Angler**



Steve first started fishing when he was 6 on the Exeter Canal for perch and bream, drowning maggots etc. On moving to Lypstone near Exmouth on the river Exe he joined Exmouth Sea Angling Association and went beach fishing and eventually Deep-Sea fishing where he was too frequently laying 'ground bait' for the other anglers, so that put an end to deep-sea fishing. He was introduced to the art of Fly-fishing when he was about 20 and joined the local Fly-fishing club in Kennick and learnt the trade of fly-fishing and fly-tying. After entering lots of competitions and making it through to the England Nationals many times, he made the England Team on two occasions in 2000, and 2003 where he was lucky to be awarded Team Gold both times. In 2014 he was asked to be Reserve in the England Team to fish the Commonwealth Fly-fishing Championships in Devon and Cornwall, England where the Team achieved the Silver award. He was then selected to go to Canada to fish again and we had a fantastic time but unfortunately not in medal contention. He must have done something right because the captain picked him again in 2018 to go to Northern Ireland.

### **Stuart Wardle, Reserve Angler**



Stuart is married with two daughters and been an avid fly fisher for too long to mention!. He is now semi-retired and works as a part time Local Council Clerk and has established his own successful Fly Fishing Guiding & Tuition business, The Durham Fly Fishing Company established in 2010 so he now spends even more time near water!! He first qualified for Team England in 1999 and was a member of the Silver Medal England Commonwealth Teams in 2010 (Wales), 2012 (Tasmania), 2014 (England) and fished in Canada in 2016. He is looking forward to catching up with fishing friends and making many new ones in the Northern Ireland 2018 Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships. During his visit to Northern Ireland he is hoping to visit Tayto Castle land - the home of Tayto Cheese and Onion crisps!

## **ENGLAND LADIES**



### **Sheena Goode, Captain & Angler**

Sheena lives in the Midlands of England not far from Draycote. She has been very lucky to have 1 European cap, 3 Commonwealth caps and 10 International caps representing England. She is still learning and recently been trying to tie my own flies.

She likes to spread the word about fly fishing as it is such a wonderful sport that enables her to see parts of the world she would have only dreamt of, and along the way make some great friends.



### **Lynda Steele, Angler**

Lynda has been fishing since 2013 and in that time she has gained one England cap and this will be her second Commonwealth Championships. She lives in North Wales and regularly fishes the Cieriog and Dee rivers as well as the many lakes, still waters and reservoirs in the north west. Since the last Commonwealth in Canada, she has taken on a farm and introduced a number of friends to fly fishing. She has also been lucky to travel and compete with her team mates all over and she is looking forward to representing England once again at the 2018 Commonwealths in Northern Ireland.





**Andrea Smith, Angler**

Andrea started Fishing in 2013 and it has rapidly taken over my life. I live in Hampshire with my husband and have one grown up son. I am lucky to be able to fish some very idyllic Rivers & still waters. I work for NATS the UK Air Traffic Control Company, as a full time Bid Manager.

The past 2 years have been very exciting, last year I gained my first England Cap in Ireland and got the team Gold. I also became a Grandmother for the first time and am looking forward to the day I can take my Grandson Fishing.

I love helping and encouraging newcomers of all ages to the sport as it's a great Buzz. I am really looking forward to fishing in this my second Commonwealth Championships and meeting up with some familiar faces and making lots of new friends



**Gwyneth Mooney, Angler**

Gwyneth a retired project manager who started fly fishing when her two children grew up. She won her first England cap as part of the 2017 loch-style team that won Gold on Lough Melvin, Ireland and is really looking forward returning to Northern Ireland and to take part in her first Commonwealth championships.



**Rachael Brady, Angler**

I work for Orvis as an Account Manager and Sporting Co-ordinator. In 2015 I got properly 'hooked' on fishing and cut my teeth on our Test & Itchen beats.

Now I am constantly looking for new places to fish and experience as I feel I will never stop learning when it comes to fishing!

## NORTHERN IRELAND MEN



**Darren Wallace, Manager**

Darren Wallace has been fishing all his life and is the proprietor of Woodford Fly Fishery, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim.

He is also Chairman of TAFI Ulster and represented Northern Ireland at the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship in Devon in 2014 gaining a third place team medal.

Darren hopes the team will continue to prosper and do well in this years competition in Northern Ireland.





### **Alan R McDade, Captain**

Alan has fished in club level competitions, represented Ulster, and has Captained the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Fly Fishing Team to Tasmania 2012, England 2014 and Canada 2016 where the team achieved two third place (Team Bronze) and two individual runners up places. For 2018 he is the nominated Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (TAFI) International Organiser for the 2018 Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships being held in Northern Ireland. He won the TAFI Ulster 2014 Lakes competition and has represented TAFI Ulster at the Ireland Inter-Provincial competition. He enjoys the challenge of just fishing in the open air and being at one with nature and its surroundings. A professional engineer, he is currently employed with the accountancy firm Deloitte LLP as head of their UK Tax Admin Support team. Alan lives in Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, with his long-suffering wife, Christine and they have three grown up children and two grandsons who will be taking up the sport in due course!



### **Campbell Baird, Angler**

Campbell has been fly fishing from the age of six and entered his first competition at the age of eleven. He is passionate about the sport and loves the excitement of competing under pressure. Campbell has represented Ireland at International, European and World level and captained Ulster at the all-Ireland finals five times leading to him being appointed captain of the Ireland International team twice. Campbell is a regular contributor to 'Trout Fisherman' and 'Irish Angler' magazines which between them have a circulation of approximately sixty thousand copies distributed worldwide each month. Campbell was the National Youth Officer for the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (T.A.F.I.) with a remit to promote and develop angling in Ireland for boys and girls between the ages of 12 – 18. It is a busy job which takes him to all counties, North and South of Ireland.



### **Darren Hagan, Angler**

Aged 20 something.. I've been fly fishing from the age of 12 and been fishing competitions for last 15 years. I've represented Ireland at International level and been Ulster champion three times.

I live in Carrickfergus and have won numerous competitions with team Woodford Greys since he was 14 years old.

I enjoy all aspects of fishing with my new passion being river fishing.

This is my first Commonwealth championships and am looking forward to the social side of things; oh and the fishing.

He claims he can do a one handed cartwheel while carrying a pint of Guinness!



### **Brian Kerr, Angler**

Brian began competition fishing at the age of nine, entering sea shore angling competitions with his dad. As a junior he won a number of trophies; was junior club champion and was awarded several medals for specimen fish. At the age of sixteen Brian went to work in a tackle shop owned and run by ex House Of Hardy fly dresser Ken Middlemist, it was here Brian did an apprenticeship in fly dressing which in turn fuelled his interest in fly fishing. Since then all of his fishing time has been devoted to fly fishing on rivers, lakes from the bank and lough style lake fishing. When he is not fishing Brian loves to be dressing flies and has tied flies for a number of top International anglers, his fly dressing has also enabled him to raise funds for charity. It was around 2007 Brian met his partner Linda and live together with their 7 year old son, Sonny, in Co. Armagh.



### **James Burns, Angler**

James lives in Ballynure, Co. Antrim and has been a keen fly fisherman from the age of 8 and since then he was 'hooked' on the sport.

He particular likes lake and lough style fishing, where you would mostly find him in the south of Ireland but he has also fish in Scotland and Russia for salmon and sea trout on occasions.

James has only started on the competition side of the sport since 2016 having previously competed in club level competitions.

This is James' first Commonwealth Championship and he feels extremely proud to be on the team doing what he loves - fishing!





### **Gary Maguire, Angler**

Having caught my first fish at the age of 3 ½, I have been hooked ever since and I have been preoccupied by fish & fishing ever since. I believe there is not a waking (or sleeping) moment that a fish does not swim somewhere in my brain. Over the years I have mainly fished for pleasure and have been lucky to fish some of the great rivers & lakes of Northern Ireland & Ireland; as well as some wonderful destinations further afield. In recent years I have been introduced to stocked fisheries & the competition scene and since my introduction to competitive angling, I have competed at club level as well as representing Ulster in River, Lough Style & Still Water Banks disciplines. The 2018 CFFC will be my first International Competition. What a great privilege to represent my country for the first time on my own doorstep. I am 40 years old, married and we are blessed to have 3 sons. When not fishing I run my own retail business. In the words of my long-suffering fishing widow, I am “crazy & fish too much”



### **Kenneth Ferguson, Reserve Angler**

Kenny Ferguson has been fly fishing since he was a young boy, being heavily influenced by his father to take up the sport. Since then Kenny has enjoyed notable success and represented Ulster and Ireland at all levels of the sport which has taken him to Tasmania, England and Canada. Kenny is 40 years of age and works as Plumbing and Heating engineer in Belfast; he lives with his 3 children in Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, Northern Ireland.

## **NORTHERN IRELAND LADIES**



### **Alan R McDade, Captain**

This is the first time a Northern Ireland Ladies Team has entered this competition. Originally there were four in the team but for various personal reasons the other three have sadly had to withdraw.

I am however personally delighted that Lynda has prevailed despite a challenging year and I know she is determined to do well.

It is an honour to be her Captain.

### **Linda Straghan, Angler**



Linda has been fishing for around 30 years and has enjoyed all types of fishing in that period. She has 8 International Caps for Ireland to date fishing with the Irish Ladies Fly Fishing Team. She has been top International Individual at the Ladies Fly Fishing Championships on two occasions. She was crowned Sportswoman of the year for County Armagh in 2013 for her fishing achievements.

When Linda's not fishing with the ladies she enjoys time fishing with fiancé Brian and 7 year old son, Sonny. Highlights so far are, team gold in 2013 and winning the Brown Bowl in 2013 & 2017.

Linda is really looking forward to the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships and welcoming the other teams to her homeland of Northern Ireland

# ISLE OF MAN



**Julie Thomas, Manager**

Julie is married to Geoff Thomas and he drags her along everywhere when he goes fishing in these Commonwealth competitions. She knows nothing about fishing and she doesn't even like eating fish. So she supposes she will have to go along to Northern Ireland to make sure Geoff behaves himself and doesn't drink too much Guinness!



**Geoff Thomas, Captain & Angler**

Geoff is a 52 years old Retired Fire Officer, married with two girls. He has been fly fishing for over 38 years and competition fishing for the last 17. Geoff has recently set up his own business guiding and teaching fly fishing here on the Isle of Man. A role he is enjoying, meeting new people and helping them along their fly fishing journey. My first Commonwealth experience was being in Wales 2002 and this visit to Ireland will be my 8th championships.



**Paul Hay, Angler**

Hello, my name is Paul Hay, I live in a small village called Laxey on the Isle of Man. I feel privileged to fish in this years Manx team and as this is my second Commonwealth Championships, I am looking forward to meeting some old friends and fishing in some of Northern Ireland's lovely lakes and rivers



**Graham Norman, Angler**

I am now semi-retired and loving every bit of it, managing to fish about 4 times a week at our local reservoirs and rivers. I enjoy a bit of a challenge so travel to the U.K. whenever I can, to fish the larger waters and rivers. My father and uncles started me fishing at the age of 5 years on the canals in Lancashire but I think I was a pain in the butt more than anything. Some will say I haven't changed, however it gave me a good grounding for fishing. This will be my 4th Commonwealth's competition and some controlling in New Zealand for the Commonwealths. Looking forward to meeting all the other teams again in Northern Ireland.



**Phil Bell-Scott, Angler**

I started fly fishing 30 years ago in saltwater, later moving to still waters and rivers. I enjoy exploring new venues and catching different species but I'll never tire of the challenge of catching Trout. This will be my second Commonwealth and I'm looking forward to fishing in Northern Ireland and catching up with the friendly bunch of people I first met in Mont-Tremblant 2 years ago.





**David Howe, Angler**

I am 42 years old and I have been fly fishing for 19 years, this will be my 5th Time representing the Isle of Man in the Commonwealth. It is a great competition and I can't wait to sample the fishing in Northern Ireland and meet up with some old friends.

## NEW ZEALAND



**Neil Hirtzel, Captain & Angler**



I started fly-fishing in 1970 when I returned to NZ after travelling around the world for 8 1/2 years. I had always been interested in fishing but never had the opportunity to really take it up as sport. I first entered competitions in late 1990s. My first attempt was a complete disaster finishing last! But I kept at it and practised at every opportunity, continuing to enter more competitions until I eventually made the NZ team in 2005. I have been a regular member of the Silver Flies team since then, competing in World, Commonwealth and Oceania international competitions. I was selected as captain on three of those occasions. I have won team gold and bronze medals and a silver individual medal in Wales. I'm looking forward to leading the NZ team as captain for the Commonwealth Championships in Omagh, Northern Ireland. We hope to do well amongst 16 other competing nations. I am retired from the building trade and now I'm enjoying my semi-retirement keeping busy doing rod custom-design work and repairs and trout fly-fishing guiding under the name Trout scout

**Johannes Venter, Angler**



Johannes spent many years salt water fishing for pelagic fish in the city of Durban South Africa. Immigrating to New Zealand 20 years ago I was introduced to fresh water fly fishing by Johannes Krill and he has been my mentor ever since. Johannes asked me to 8 years ago to do some controlling for him at the national river competition. That was the year the competition bug bit me. I have since represent NZ in the 2017 Oceania completion and look forward to competing in Commonwealth in Northern Ireland in 2018.

**Craig Gutry, Angler**



Craig is from Paraparaumu and was first introduced to fly fishing in 2012. He has always been competitive in sports from hockey, sailing, karate, ballroom dancing and was a national champion in water-skiing. Now a chef who shares time with his wife and five children and competing on the fly fishing circuit. Craig's philosophy is "In my world all things are possible". After only four months of being introduced to fly fishing he won a regional fly tying competition. He spends a lot of his fishing time in the Wellington region and Taupo. From last in his first fishing competition to consistent placings over the last two years, he has earned a position the Commonwealth fly fishing team. Thanks to coaching from international competitors Cory Scott, John Gummer, Paul Dewar and Paul Baker, Craig is improving in all aspects of fly fishing

**Johannes Krill, Angler**



Johannes first held a fly rod in his hands in 1981. Ever since he has difficulties letting go of one, once it is in his hand. Emigrating to NZ fuelled the desire to fly fish even further with the opportunities abound. Pleasure fishing the New Zealand rivers and lakes became his passion for more than 3 decades. About 15 years ago he expanded his fly fishing activities into the salt water. Since then he has fly fished many rivers, lakes and flats in New Zealand, Australia, North, South and Central America, Europe and Russia. His interest in competition fishing was first spawned as a controller in the 2008 World Championship held in NZ. Since then he has competed in many competitions at home in NZ and overseas. Today most of his fishing activities are competition fishing related



**Peter Scott, Angler**

President NZ sports fly fishing and New Zealand’s most capped fly fisherman as well as the NZ fly fishing champion. Peter works at Rod & Reel, New Market, Auckland. New Zealand.

**SCOTLAND MEN**



**Iain Earl, Manager**

I have been involved in Competition Fly Fishing for the past 30 years, either competing in, coaching/managing Teams or organising the Competitions. My main focus, although I do still compete, is the continued promotion of the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships and ensuring Scotland’s continued involvement. I am immensely proud of Commonwealth Fly Fishing Scotland and the success we have achieved over the years while promoting young and promising anglers in to the Team at every Championship. On behalf of Scotland I would like to wish Alan and his Team of organisers all the very best of luck for the 2018 Championship in Northern Ireland



**Robert Irvine, Captain & Angler**

I was a relative late starter to fishing at the age of 15 when a group of us at school decided that the new cool fad was trout fishing. It wasn’t until I had completed my studies in Quantity Surveying that I turned my attentions to competition fishing. This began with my local Dregghorn Angling Club, where I became the first angler in its’ 30-year history to win the Dunlop Cup with the fly, whilst competing against bait fishers and spinners in the first few weeks of the season. This success was replicated a few seasons later with me becoming Club Champion, all achieved with the fly. Local club success allowed me to enter National competitions and in 2000 I had my first taste of International competing at the Home International Rivers Championship on the Welsh Dee.

I have been a part of Scotland International teams on 10 occasions with 4 of these at Commonwealth championships. My highlights are being in 3 Gold winning Scottish Teams, the most notable in New Zealand in 2008 and a very hard-fought Team Silver in Canada in 2016. From 8th place with a session to go, to second was a good feeling!





**Michael Low, Angler**

I started fishing at the age of around 10. Like most fly fisherman this started with a light spinning rod and a tub of worms! After enviously watching fly fisherman catch more fish in a day than I did in a year I knew I needed to teach myself...so I did. River fishing progressed to bank loch Fishing and banks progressed to boats before entering the world of competitions which ironically started on boats and eventually progressed to rivers.

I enjoy all aspects of fishing and am equally at home on Stillwater as I am running water. Recent commonwealth campaigns have proved successful with 3 medals out of 4 attempts. Having never fished in Ireland I relish the opportunity to try out some of the best water hay the country has to offer.

**David Chalmers, Angler**



I have been fishing for nearly all of my life, landed my first fish at the age of 8 whilst fishing with my father on "Loch Leven" where eventually I would spend a lifetime developing my skills and techniques as a loch fisherman. I am equally at home fishing lochs or rivers, fishing regularly on the rivers Tay, Tummel and my local river the Eden. I tie all my own flies, creating new and modifying traditional patterns. The fishing rods I use range from 7 ft. 2 weights for tiny dry fly applications to the powerful 11ft 7 weights for sink line fishing much needed in the open lochs of Scotland. I have represented Scotland on 27 occasions. My best performance has been achieving team bronze in the 2009 World championships along with 4 team golds in the Commonwealth Championships 2006, 2008, 2009, 2014 and achieving the team silver medal in Canada 2016.

**John McCallum, Angler**



I have fished since the age of 3 fishing the burns with bait around my childhood home in Perthshire. I joined my local club at the age of 11 starting competition angling shortly afterwards.

Since then I have represented Scotland 22 times at World, Commonwealth, European and Home International level. From 2006 it has been a particular honour to be a part of the Commonwealth family, meeting old friends and making new ones. I live on the Isle of Islay where I operate a fly fishing guide service

**Brad Chalmers, Angler**



Brad has been fishing from the early age of 8, brought up on the River Tay in Scotland. He has lived for fishing throughout his life working in tackle shops and running fisheries. He travels up and down the country competing in Loch style fly fishing competitions, represented Scotland at international and European level since he was 15 years old, winning Gold medals along the way. When he isn't chasing medals, he fly fishes for everything that swims, be it 1lb grayling on the smallest's of streams, 20lb surface feeding carp, big toothy critters in the Highland Lochs of Scotland or specimen sized wild brown trout on the Mighty Loch Leven

**Ian Jones, Reserve Angler**



Ian enjoys all types of fishing from the flats and coastal shores of Boca Paila, Mexico to the wilds and remoteness of Market Loch on the Isle of Jura. Ian has been fortunate enough to represent Scotland in a number of national and international fly fishing championships with varying levels of team success.

He enjoys the competition scene and most of all the opportunity of meeting and catching up with fellow anglers from around the world.

# SCOTLAND LADIES



**Helen Philp**, Manager & Reserve Angler



Living in a small village half way between Edinburgh & Perth called Milnathort which is on the banks of Loch Leven gives me lots of opportunities to go fly fishing. Married for 38yrs with 2 children, James & Amy and 2 gorgeous grandsons Corey & Ryan. I work as an Assistant Manager in a local business and I am also a 1st Responder. I started fly fishing 28 yrs ago encouraged by my husband Richard; little did he know what he would create. I enjoy fly fishing from boat, bank & river and I'm always looking for new challenges. I have competed in home Internationals, 5 Nations & Commonwealth matches too many times & my passion is to encourage & help other anglers male or female enjoy the art of fly fishing whether it be for competition or fun. Looking forward to seeing old & new friends & enjoying the renowned Irish hospitality. Tight Lines

**Lana Taylor**, Captain & Angler



I have been fishing for over 25yrs and have had the privilege of fishing for Scotland Ladies on several occasions. I have 15 caps for International matches and this year will be my 5th Commonwealth competition.

I am also honoured to be Captain again this year - my team mates said I didn't do very well last time, so they are giving me a second chance. I'm really looking forward to this years Commonwealth Match in Northern Ireland.

**Dione Roberts**, Angler



Dione lives in the great city of Edinburgh and started fly fishing with her father for wild brown trout and salmon. She finds it to be enjoyable and the relaxation of fly fishing, whether on a reservoir, loch or river is my passion but she much prefer the thrill of salmon fishing.

**Jean Ferguson**, Angler



Jean has been fly fishing for approximately 20 years. She is passionate about going after wild brown trout and enjoys to thrill of catching them.

Through fishing I have met a lot of amazing people and have been to some beautiful places. I am so looking forward to adding yet another angling experience to my list this year in Northern Ireland.

**Kathleen Shepherd**, Angler



Kathleen is feeling especially excited this year as this will be my 1st Cap for Scotland and first Commonwealth, although I do have 7 Caps for Scotland in the International Ladies and my 3rd Cap for the 5 Nations Championships.

Looking forward to seeing old & new friends.



## SOUTH AFRICA MEN



**Gerrit Redpath**, Manager & Angler

Gerrit started competitive fishing in 2016 and has since managed the SA team at two World Fly Fishing Championships. This will be his first Commonwealth Championship, participating as an angler. When Gerrit is not on the water and sharing his knowledge, he is working in his own business. Gerrit is from Bloemfontein, married to Anda and have 2 beautiful daughters.



**Daniel Factor**, Angler

Dan started fishing before he could walk. He lives and breathes fly fishing every day of his life. He remains at the top of the SA fly fishing ladder where he has been for a number of years. He has fished one Youth World Championship, one Oceania Championship and six Senior World Championships. This will be his first Commonwealth Championships.



**David Karpul**, Angler

David is new to the competitive fly fishing scene and despite this he won gold the first time he completed a South African National Fly Fishing Championships in 2017. When not fishing, he lives a vagabond lifestyle out of suitcase somewhere between Cape Town, South Africa and Australia while finishing off a PhD in Biomedical Engineering, studying neuropathy in HIV patients.



**Matt Rich**, Angler

Matt started competitive fishing in 2008 and has since represented South Africa at four World Championships. He is looking forward to his first Commonwealth Championship. When he not fishing, he is the Operations Manager for a listed property fund and relishes the creativity of property development. Matt is from Cape Town, married to Megs and very proud dad of a little boy



**Brett Van Rensburg**, Angler

Brett has been casting a Fly line for as long as he can remember, his passion to compete and learn more about the sport guided him to the world of competitive angling just over three years ago. This will be his first international event. He Lives in Johannesburg and works for the largest Systems Integrator in Africa. When he is not fishing and working he enjoys spending time in the wild with his wife Bonnie and his 16 month old son Lincoln.

## SOUTH AFRICA LADIES



**Alison O'Brien, Manager & Angler**

Alison works as a sales consultant at an Estate Agency. Alison and her husband Patrick have been fly fishing together for about 12 years and have been fishing competitively for the past 8 years. This will be her second Commonwealth Championship. Alison has two grown children.



**Renthia De Waal, Captain & Manager**

Renthia is participating in her 5th CFFC and is the Captain of the SA Ladies team. Renthia is from Pretoria and is a rental agent. This veteran of the sport loves the outdoors and can't wait to see all the fishing friends from the past Commonwealth Competitions. Renthia is married to Kiewiet and is the proud mother of Blom. They spend many happy hours fishing together.



**Marlize Heyns, Angler**

Blom is still the current SA Ladies top angler. She is a Private Chef at a company called Q4 Fuel. This will be her 4th Commonwealth Competition and, as always, can't wait to be reunited with the friends made over the past 8 years. Blom is newly married to Craig.



**Greer Leo-Smith, Angler**

Greer is the owner of Greer's Sports and Cycling in Hoedspruit, Limpopo, South Africa. She lives in a game reserve which can make a simple task like hanging out the washing a bit challenging. Greer enjoys wildlife photography, tennis (serious tennis), golf, flying (she is a pilot), boating and in recent years, she has become a passionate fly fisher. Greer is married to Kevin and has two sons.



**Amy Trembling, Angler**

Amy works in the financial services industry. She started fishing competitively in August 2017 and enjoys the challenge of learning new things. Her tenacity and perseverance was rewarded with excellent results in the past two nationals. This will be Amy's first Commonwealth Championship



## WALES



**Malcolm Edwards**, *Manager & Angler*

I started Fly Fishing at a young age on the River Loughor and Rowy and fly fishing came along later; now I am teaching the next generation in our local club. I only started competition fishing and trailing for the Welsh teams some years ago and have represented Wales at the Worlds, European and Commonwealths. This will be my 6th Commonwealths competition and I look forward to renewing friendships with all my friends across the Commonwealth in Northern Ireland in Sep 2018. Tight Lines to everyone.



**Carl Williams**, *Captain & Angler*

I have been fishing all my life, mainly concentrating on river fishing, however in my early 20s, I found myself taking part in Loch style competitions up and down the UK, especially around Welsh reservoirs. I earned 3 Welsh International Loch Style Caps and 1 Commonwealth cap in Canada. As Captain of my home angling team of Y Gwyniad I still compete in many different competitions of various formats. I could not be prouder than to lead my country as Captain in only my second Commonwealth Championship. And I'm looking forward to the camaraderie that comes with competing in this amazing competition and the challenges that come along with it. The format of the championship is challenging, can be difficult and yet so much fun! I once dreamed of representing my country, now I'm living that dream. Best of luck to all competitors and teams, and may the best team win.



**Peter Thurnall**, *Angler*

I live in Llandeild, south west Wales on the banks of the river Towy where I worked as a water bailiff for over 28 years. I started fishing at the age of 11 and took up competition fishing in the late 1980's and since then I have represented Wales at the Worlds, Commonwealths, Lough Style and bank competitions. This will be my 3rd Commonwealth competition and I am really looking forward to Sep 2018 in Northern Ireland.



**Llion Francis**, *Angler*

I started competitive fly fishing two years ago with the fishing team 'Y Gwyniad' on Clywedog reservoir and been involved with and fished with some of the top Welsh anglers where I gained a lot of knowledge of different methods from each boat partner I fished with. During the summer of 2016 I travelled around Canada fishing both the West and East coast and joined the Welsh team as a spectator in the Commonwealth fly fishing championship in Mont-Tremblant. I thought that the different methods of fishing (river/lake) was exciting and decided to trial for the next Commonwealth. After gaining my spot in the team I couldn't believe my luck. I am so proud of gaining my first Welsh international cap and the chance to represent my country in the sport I love. Best of luck to all competitors, Tinellau tyn' (tight lines).

**Euros Jones**, *Angler*

Started fishing at the age of eight with my dad, uncle and great uncle with running worm for brown trout on a local stream. Caught my first salmon when I was thirteen years old. Joined Carmarthen Amateur Angling Association when I was sixteen. Have been fortunate to have represented Wales on 4 Commonwealths also the Home Autumn Loch Style International Wales 2012. I was privileged to be the Chairman / Organiser of Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship 2010 - Wales. Its safe to say the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship is close to my heart and I try my best to give back to the sport what I have been fortunate to receive out of it along with the friendship made with anglers all over the world.





## History of the Commonwealth Fly Fishers.

The idea for a Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championship originated during discussions amongst members of some of the Commonwealth teams attending the successful World Fly Fishing Championships held at Kimbridge (then the home of Anne & Arthur Humbert), on the River Test in England in May 1987.

Competitors from Australia, Canada and New Zealand approached Anne and Arthur Humbert with the idea that there should be a separate, simpler competition than the more formal FIPS-Mouche WFFC. They proposed that it should be based on the simple idea that “friendship in fishing” was more im-

portant than just competing to win.

The idea was enthusiastically supported by the Commonwealth teams present at that WFFC. Arthur Humbert and Tony Paulson agreed to take the idea forward. It was, from the beginning, designed to provide a counterpoint to the more serious and formal World Fly Fishing Championships (WFFC) and to foster a deep sense of friendly competition, fair play and fun amongst fly fishers from the Commonwealth family of nations. An organisation called “Commonwealth Fly Fishers” together with a set of rules and protocols for a championship was defined by Arthur & Tony.

Many of the initial proposals and technical advice on defining a suitable format was provided by Tony Pawson, the experienced English Captain. And so the “Commonwealth Fly Fishers” was born. Rule 1 of the original rules states “Rules and organisation should be kept simple, the twin aims are enjoyable fishing and companionship and a chance to sample each other’s waters and methods. The results to be secondary to these aims”. Although the rules have been modified since this time, this idea is still the underlying philosophy of the CFFC. Anne and Arthur, with these aims in mind, arranged to hold the inaugural Championships with the enormous support and co-operation of Jason and Barbara Garrett at London Lakes Lodge, Tasmania in December 1988. Six teams from Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales participated together with a celebrity team. This was a great success so the decision was taken to make this a regular event. The Humberts had a logo, flag etc designed for “The Commonwealth Fly Fishers” as the organisation was to be known.

The name was a deliberate choice to emphasise that the membership was open to all fly fishers of either sex. Together these helped to formalise the organisation and to provide a link between each event. It was also decided that this competition should normally be held in the Commonwealth country closest to the annual World Fly Fishing Championships location. When this was not practicable, the competition would not be held that year. In the late 1990s it was agreed by the representatives of each team then present that the competition would be held every second (even numbered) year unless the FIPS Mouche competition was actually in a Commonwealth country in the intervening year in which case an additional CFFC would be held. From the beginning, the founders were committed to the idea that this Commonwealth Fly Fishing competition would be free from the “politics & formality” associated with the FIPS-Mouche world fly fishing championships. It now lives on in this wonderful biannual event as a friendly, international, fishing competition which we now take forward under the slogan, “Fishing in Friendship”. The basic idea that attendees would get to meet other like minded fly fishers and form lasting friendships has turned out to be one of the best features of this competition. It has enabled many of the participants to travel the Commonwealth, fishing with like minded colleagues locally. The inaugural winners received a magnificent perpetual trophy donated by Jason Garrett Snr. Australia won



the first Championship and handsome piscatorial prizes were presented to the medal winning team members. Many successful events have taken place since; England hosted the Championship in 1989, Wales in 1990, with generous sponsorship from Welsh Water, New Zealand 1991 in Rotorua in conjunction with the WFFC, Canada in 1993 following the WFFC in Kamloops, and Scotland in 1995 at Kinross. 1997 was held ? (let us know if anyone remembers such a championship). This was followed in 1999 by a CFFC organised by Ballarat Fly Fishers on behalf of Fly Fish Australia (FFA). In 2000 the CFFC was held in England at Rutland Water following the WFFC. In 2002 the Welsh Salmon & Trout Association again hosted the CFFC based in Llangothlan. In 2003 an unofficial CFFC was held at Pitsford and Rutland Waters with Bob Church as host. In 2004 we held an official CFFC on Loch Fitty in Dunfermline, Scotland. Following this, in 2006 the competition was held in Wales on the River Dee and Lyn Brenig reservoir. 2008 was held in NZ in Hawkes Bay mainly on the Tukituki River following the WFFC in Rotorua. 2009 was held in Scotland on the Island of Islay as the WFFC was also in Scotland that year. The 2010 CFFC was again held in Wales at Rhayader & Llandrindod. 2012 saw a hugely successful (and the largest to date) CFFC in Tasmania hosted by FFA and organised by Malcolm Crosse.

2014 was organised in Devon by Dave Grove of the Commonwealth Fly Fishers of England. 2016 was held in Canada at Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, in August just prior to the WFFC in the Vale, Colorado, USA. It was organised by Fly Fishing Canada under their President, Jim Ireland and Organiser, Alain Monast. The September 2018 CFFA will be held in Northern Ireland under the auspices of TAAFI, with Alan Mc Dade as the international Organiser. In 1995 at the AGM during the CFFC held at Kinross, Scotland, Arthur Humbert announced his decision to stand down as Chairman. He proposed that Jill Mandeno from New Zealand assume the Chairmanship, which was duly agreed by the attendees. Bob Church was also appointed as Technical Advisor, replacing Tony Pawson.

And so after firmly establishing the CFFC as a permanent fixture on the fishing calendar, the Humbert's relinquished the reins of the CFA and passed the management into the hands of Jill Mandeno who remains Chairman today. The CFFC has evolved over the years. An AGM is held in conjunction with each championship following the Captains Meeting. The Team Captains are the designated representatives of each country present.

Changes to the rules and format are discussed and voted on at these meetings. In the late 1990s it was agreed that each Commonwealth Country would as of right be able to enter one team of men, women or mixed anglers. If space permitted, they would also be able to enter a second team as well. Preference for the entry of a second team would be given to those countries which operate their men's and women's fly fishing separately. In this case one woman's team and one men's team would be allowed. Any additional available places for second teams will be available to any member on a first come, first served basis. In order to provide the same fishing rules as anglers must adhere to at world level, the competition is now conducted under the latest published international FIPS Mouche fishing rules (with the only changes being rules modifications to meet local laws). However non-fishing rules relating to the formalities associated with that event are used at the discretion of the local organising committee. We continue to emphasise the need to bring together friends old and new, sharing a common understanding and reaffirming again that old adage "there's more to fishing than catching fish". In line with our slogan, Jason Garrett's trophy has been renamed "The Friendship Trophy" and is now considered the top award at the CFFC. It is unique in that the winner is decided by all the teams present with each team having one vote (for other than themselves!) for the team they perceive as best exhibiting the ideals of the CFA.

Over the years there have been some truly worthy winners with the 2012 winners being the novice fly fishing team from Kiribati attending their first such event.

Sadly some of our founders are no longer with us. The CFA first lost Tony Pawson, then Arthur Humbert, first Chairman of the Commonwealth Fly Fishers, passed away on Thursday, October 13th 2011 after a long illness. Fortunately both Anne Humbert and Jason Garrett Snr are still associated with the CFA as we move forward, to an enlarged organisation with new member countries and a new, younger generation of anglers.

In 2014, the name "Commonwealth Flyfishers Association" was formerly registered in the UK with Jill Mandeno as its Director. Dave Grove & Malcolm Crosse were formally appointed Secretary and VP respectively. The society is a registered "not for-profit" organisation. In order to keep this name and status of the society, from 2016 a small annual membership fee will be introduced to cover the filing of annual tax returns, registration etc. This will be fixed at the 2016 AGM.

Membership is open to only one registered sports fly fishing organisation in each Commonwealth country. First right to join will be made to the society who is the registered member of FIPS-Mouche. Where this organisation is not interested in belonging to the Commonwealth Fly Fishers, interested anglers in that country may formally register another society and apply for membership. Once a country representative society has joined, it can only be replaced if it resigns in favour of another society.

The society now comprises representatives from:

- Australia, Fly Fish Australia.
- Canada, Fly Fishing Canada England.
- Commonwealth Fly Fishing England.
- Isle of Man, Isle of Man Fly Fishermen.
- Malta, National Federation of Sports Anglers in Malta.
- New Zealand, Sport Fly Fishing NZ Inc.
- Northern Ireland, Trout Angling Federation of Ireland.
- Scotland, Commonwealth Fly Fishing Scotland.
- South Africa, South Africa Fly Fishing Association.
- Wales, Welsh Salmon & Trout Association.
- Channel Islands, Channel Islands Federation of Freshwater Anglers.

A number of other Commonwealth nations have expressed interested in joining the society and it is hoped that CFF can be a catalyst for increasing sports fly fishing throughout the Commonwealth.





DAERA Inland Fisheries is responsible, under the provisions of the Fisheries Act (NI) 1966, for the salmon and inland fisheries of Northern Ireland and provides advice and guidance on the conservation, protection, development and improvement of salmon and inland fisheries to angling clubs, fishery owners and a range of other stakeholders. It is the licensing authority for angling in Northern Ireland, other than the Foyle and Carlingford areas which are covered by the Loughs Agency.

Inland Fisheries manages the DAERA Public Angling Estate, which provides citizens with accessible, affordable and good quality angling. It offers game and coarse fishing at a range of rivers, lakes and canals across Northern Ireland and features some renowned venues such as Lough Erne and the River Bush at Bushmills. A significant number of waters have disabled facilities such as enhanced access and designated fishing stands. The Department runs a major fish farm at Movinagher on the Lower Bann near Kilrea, which provides in excess of 120000 brown and rainbow trout for stocking in Public Angling Estate put and take fisheries. This also has a conservation effect, alleviating angling pressure on wild fish stocks.

In recent years DAERA Inland Fisheries has developed an Angling Community Outreach strategy, which aims to increase participation in angling, particularly from underrepresented groups such as children and young people, females and those with disabilities. In the last year the Department has supported a range of events that have provided over 2000 individuals with their first angling experience. The health and well-being effect of angling is well documented and the Community Outreach Team has worked with groups from the education sector, the criminal justice system and charities, which use angling as a vehicle to address a wide range of issues.

### **Polish Anglers NI Outreach Event**



## LOUGHS AGENCY



**The Loughs Agency** is one of six “North / South Implementation Bodies” set up under the Belfast Agreement. It operates across both jurisdictions (Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland) and is a key body in the management and conservation of inland fisheries in the Foyle and Carlingford regions, developing and promoting the game, coarse and sea angling product of these two cross border catchments.

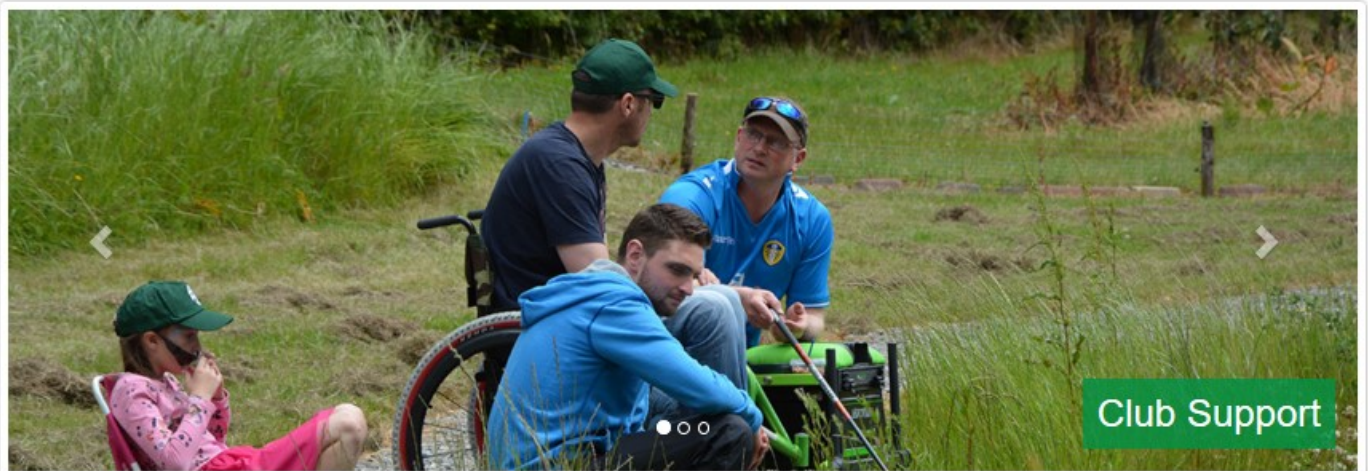
The Foyle system covers an area of approximately 1,300 square miles stretching across much of three counties. The tributaries of the Foyle rise in the Blue Stack Mountains of Donegal, the Sperrin Mountains of Tyrone and Derry and the wildness of Inishowen – hills that hold many of the spawning waters of Foyle salmon.

These rivers provide the most affordable sport in these islands for a broad range of anglers. As well as fabulous salmon fishing, the Foyle system offers excellent sport for the brown trout angler. Sea trout anglers can get cracking sport out of good runs of sea trout from mid July onwards on most of the Foyle rivers.

The Carlingford system covers an area of approximately 340 square miles. The rivers that run into Carlingford Lough rise in the Mourne Mountains of County Down, the Cooley Mountains of County Louth and Slieve Gullion in County Armagh - hills that hold quality spawning waters.

The fishing in the Carlingford catchment offers wide variety: sea trout anglers can get cracking sport out of good runs from mid July onwards on the Whitewater River; there is some great trout fishing in the rivers and lakes; there is salmon to be had; the canal and some of the lakes offer coarse and pike fishing; and, there is superb sea angling from shore or charter boat!





AnglingNI is the body set-up to support game, coarse and sea anglers throughout Northern Ireland.

The aim of AnglingNI is to increase the number of anglers fishing for fun and to help support angling clubs through a variety of initiatives and programmes.

For those new to the angling, the website contains information on how to join a club or get involved in a range of participation programmes. For experienced anglers there is information on how to become a coach or avail of a range of support information.

We hope you find the website useful. Please feel to [get in touch](#).



Angling NI is the body set-up to support game, coarse and sea anglers in Northern Ireland.

Our aims and programmes are to increase the number of anglers fishing for fun and to help support angling clubs. We hope you enjoy the website and please feel to send us feedback.

Gary Houston.

Angling Active Clubs Co-ordinator

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Best wishes to the **Northern Ireland Fly Fishing Team** and to all competitors competing in the XVIII Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships.  
Tight Lines everyone!



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Tyrone County Hospital, Hospital Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT79 0AP, Tel: (028) 8283 3100

### **Doctor—non emergency:**

Omagh Health Centre, Mountjoy Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT79 7BA Tel - 02882 243521

### **Dentist:**

Murray's Dental Practice, Murray's Dental Practice, 1 Mountjoy Road, Omagh, BT797AA Tel (028) 8224 2389

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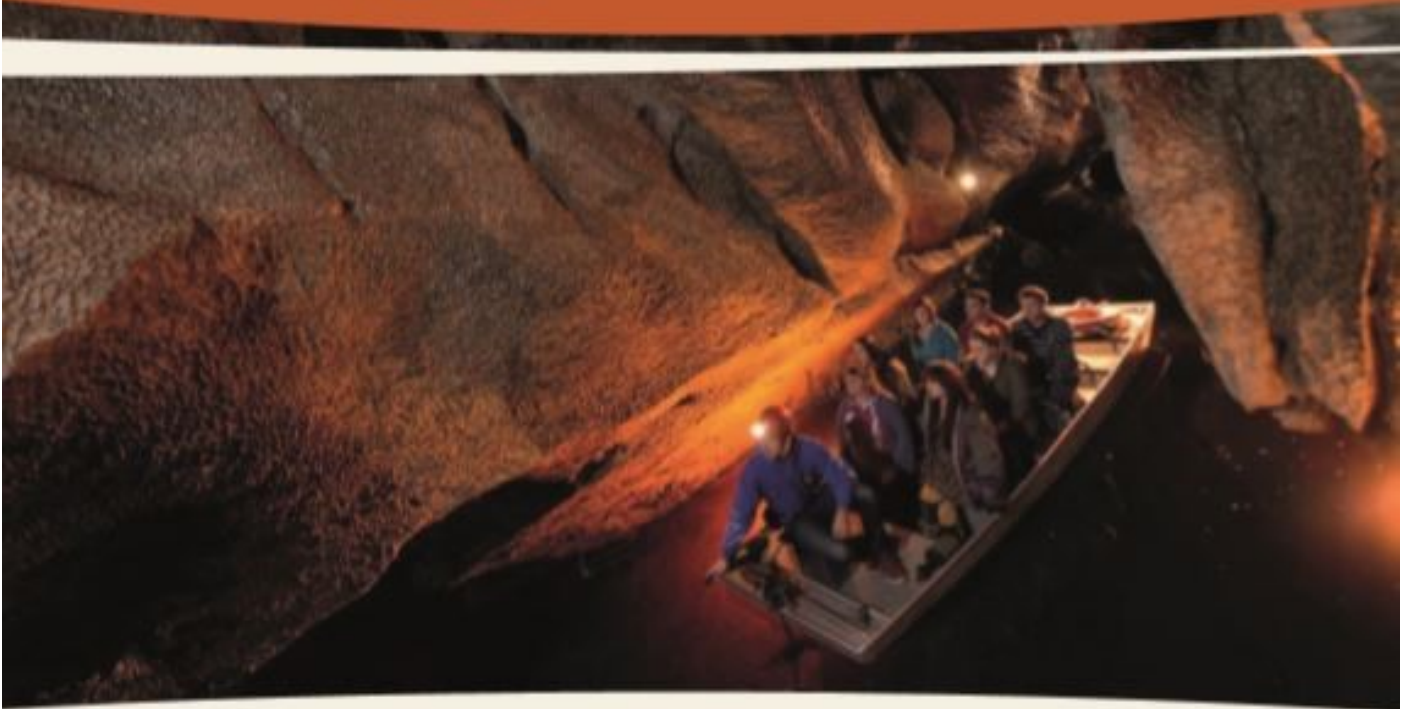
This competition didn't just happen. A lot of people, organisations and clubs have put a substantial amount of effort into getting this competition up and running. There are too many to name individually however, I do hope this list covers everyone to whom our thanks is recorded

- TAFI Central Council Committee
- TAFI Ulster Angling Council
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
- Inland Fisheries, DAERA
- Loughs Agency
- Management & Staff of The Silverbirch Hotel
- Woodford Fly Fishery
- Loughmacrory & Murrin's District Angling Association
- Dennett Anglers Association
- Finore Anglers Association
- Straid Fly Fishery
- Brett Martin Plastics, Co Antrim.
- Belfast Crystal
- Specsavers, Larne
- Tungston Beads
- The Controllers
- Sector Judges

Any omissions are the fault of myself and is not intended to be a slight on anyone or organisation.



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