



## **Pembrokeshire Federation of Angling Coaches Newsletter 2016**

Pembrokeshire Federation of Angling Coaches (PFAC) consists of a group of enthusiastic local anglers from across the sports three disciplines; Coarse Game and Sea, all of whom enjoy giving something back to their sport. PFAC cater for all groups and abilities and work with the county's local authority and community groups, such as scout groups, junior and secondary schools plus catering for private lessons to individuals if required.

It is not unknown to receive requests to work outside Pembrokeshire, which the group will always try to accommodate if possible. Recently we visited the Alzheimer's Society at Rhydaman, Ammanford.

PFAC is supported by a number of partners including Angling Cymru and Natural Resources Wales with whom we have a Collaborative Agreement finishing 2017.

PFAC works hard to forge Partnerships with local fisheries and angling clubs without which it would not be possible to coach. PFAC are eternally grateful of the support of Pembrokeshire Piscatorials Association, Pembrokeshire Anglers Association, Pembrokeshire District Angling Club and the owners of Llys-y-Fran Reservoir, White House Mill and Puddleduck Fishery, to name but a few!

### ***2016 Activities (what a difference a year can make!!!)***

This year we have been lucky to recruit some new people who have opened new doors for PFAC. Hopefully some of these new recruits may work towards becoming not just PFAC helpers but level 1 & 2 Coaches. The year started in February seeing PFAC launch its second year of mentoring initiatives with the youth of Tasker Milward School. The aim to develop their skills and confidence in order to work as mentors to Mary Immaculate school juniors. This mentoring programme was funded

by Angling Cymru. This programme is run over 4 weeks and starts with lessons on how to catch fish and the tackle involved. This is followed with a further 6 week programme where the students learn and develop their skills as mentors.



These are just some of the comments which the Head Teacher sent back to PFAC:

*" the partnership has enabled me to bring groups of pupils from different backgrounds and dynamics to enjoy learning fishing activities, build confidence, interact with the coaches and learn important social skills"*

*" what was pleasing was the impact on their self-confidence. Which had grown"*

*" during our recent Estyn Inspection , the inspection team felt that the partnership was very positive in improving pupil outcomes"*

**NEWYDDION TASKER MILWARD**

**Anglers** Last year pupils in Y7 were fortunate to be given the opportunity to work with PFAC (Pembrokeshire Federation of Angling Coaches) and pupils from Mary Immaculate, one of our feeder schools on this exciting project. The pupils were trained up by coaches from PFAC and then acted as mentors to the pupils from Mary Immaculate. The initiative was very successful with strong relationships being built between the pupils of both schools which aided the transition process. A big thank you to the coaches from PFAC for providing this worthwhile opportunity for our pupils. Pictured are: Lewis Young, Molly Pratt, Hannah Pratt, Carys Llewellyn, Seren Sudbury, Millie Arnold, Max Harrington and Lucy Thomas.

Our School  
Ein Hysgol Ni

S.T.A.R - S.E.



## ***Supporting the community***

Throughout the year PFAC has continued to support Springboard, a PCC learning initiative project, which incorporates a wide range of fun, free and exciting courses for adults and families. Several schools from around Pembrokeshire took the opportunity to try their hand at fishing with us.

## ***Pembrokeshire Fish Week***

June saw the start of Pembrokeshire Fish Week which is always a busy time for PFAC Coaches. It kicked off with sessions attempting to catch trout in atrocious conditions at Llys-y-Fran reservoir, followed by supporting the National Park School initiative.



Our Coaches then enjoyed a taster session at Orielton Fishery with Sageston and Angle schools. Wednesday was our Disabled day on the river Cleddau at Pembrokeshire Angling Centre. Towards the end of the week we held a Coarse & Fly fishing learning experience at Puddleduck Fishery and finishing off Pembrokeshire Fish Week with a Fly fishing session at Whitehouse Mill.

**Feedback from some of our sessions included the following comments;**

*"all of these children have come away having a positive experience and have learnt something new"*

*"children.....will stand on the side of the water and fish for 2.5hours without complaint or restlessness"*

*" It was nice to see that just in a small space of time that we had children who at the beginning would refuse to touch the maggots or the fish or in some cases do anything at all and by the end they were all sticking the hand in the pots and passing over the maggots and they all at least touched a fish"*

## ***Flying Start***

Another new opportunity saw PFAC involved with a group called Flying Start in which children from around Pembrokeshire were invited to Scolton Manor for a day to try new sporting activities. This was the comment from one of Flying Start Organizers:-

*Good afternoon Roger.*

*'Just to say a `massive thank you` for the fishing activities yourself and your team of volunteers provided on Playday. It was very much appreciated. If you could thank them all from me, that would be fantastic.'*

## ***Haverfordwest Food Festival!***

Always open to publicising the group to new audiences PFAC got the opportunity from an unusual source when it was invited to take part at Haverfordwest's annual food festival held adjacent to the town's Picton centre in May. Our stand was designed specifically for children to have fun, which I think we achieved, the coaches were that busy there was no time for lunch.... At a food festival! But there was plenty of fun catching plastic ducks and magnetic fish plus looking at the invertebrates from the local river presented by Pembrokeshire Rivers Trust.

## ***Fly Tying***

Fly tying has become one of PFAC's popular events enjoyed by many and delivered by some of the best fly tiers in Wales! This was one of our sessions during the year. Just need to put them to the test now.....

## ***Coaches required!***

PFAC are always open to new members and particularly those who would like to become qualified coaches, which is both worthwhile and highly satisfying. Unfortunately we are losing two of our coaches this year, Chris Kidd who is moving out of Pembrokeshire; he will be greatly missed for his coaching and computer skills and for assisting the group with its First Aid training. So we owe him a big thank you from us all. We wish him and his family all the very best in their new home in Devon. And it's goodbye from the group to David Sweet who is leaving due to family commitments and we wish him well and thank him for his support during his time with us.



***During 2016 PFAC delivered over 40 events with some 420 participants as part of our three year collaborative agreement with NRW.***



### ***2017 Programme***

PFAC is already taking bookings from school and scouts groups for 2017. Should you or should you know of anyone or any group that might be interested in "having a go" at fishing, please visit our website at [www.pfac.org.uk](http://www.pfac.org.uk). And Face book

Best wishes and tight lines for 2017

**We would like to express our thanks to all those who have helped PFAC including:**

- PFAC Webmaster David Griffiths
- Natural Resources Wales
- Angling Cymru / Federation of Angling Coaches
- Pembrokeshire County Council
- Pembrokeshire Anglers Association
- Mariners Hotel
- Llys-Y-Fran Reservoir County Park
- Puddleduck Fishery
- Whitehouse Mill trout Fishery
- West Orierton Field Centre courtesy of Pembroke & District Angling Club
- Yet-Y-Gors Fishery
- Pembrokeshire Piscatorial Association
- Pembrokeshire National Parks
- Men's Sheds - Letterston
- Welsh Ladies Angling Development