

Hello,



My initial term as River Access Co-ordinator is drawing to a close (mid October) but I am pleased to say that I am going to continue in the role for a few months on a reduced time basis or until we can work out financing for something longer term.

Issues and queries arising from our press release have kept me quite busy but nevertheless, I have managed to put together some news items that I hope you will find of interest.

Drafts of our new brochure are available to view in pdf format (see section below) on the shared Google drive (for those of you with access).

In this issue...

Press Announcement.....	2
Codes of Conduct	2
New maps	2
Web site updates.....	6
Events on the Dee – October.....	7
Day-Tickets from Midland Flyfishers	7
Brochure	8
Signage	8
Social Media – Facebook.....	9
About Welsh Dee Partnership	9
Receiving the newsletter	10

Press Announcement

This was sent to over 400 eMail recipients (predominantly canoe clubs across the country). Our mailing statistics show that over 70% of the recipients opened the eMail (a good statistic for a mailshot).

As expected, we had a number of ‘concerned’ respondents who mainly questioned our right to restrict use of the river. Most of these made comments on our Facebook page.

The North Wales Daily Post published an article

www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/row-over-river-dee-access-7731861

which unsurprisingly focussed on the negative aspects rather than on the positive – the Dee is ‘open for business’.

Codes of Conduct

Natural Resources Wales has published various Codes of Conduct which include sections for Canoeists and Anglers. These are available to view on its Web site:

<http://countrysidecode.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/default.aspx>

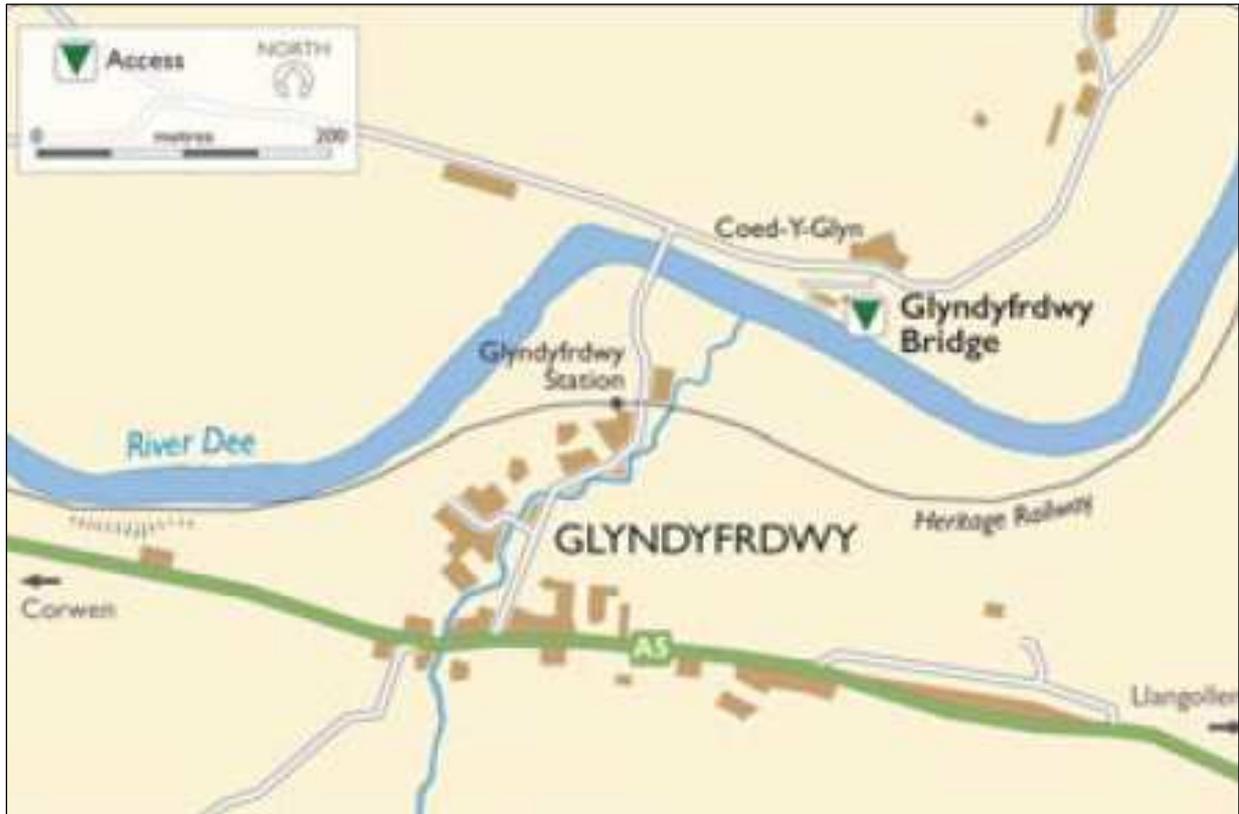
New maps

We have organised the creation of new maps – predominantly to show access and egress points – I’ve included them below (apologies for the quality here – I don’t yet have the originals, which also include names in Welsh)

THE FULL STRETCH OF THE DEE



GLYDYFRDWEY



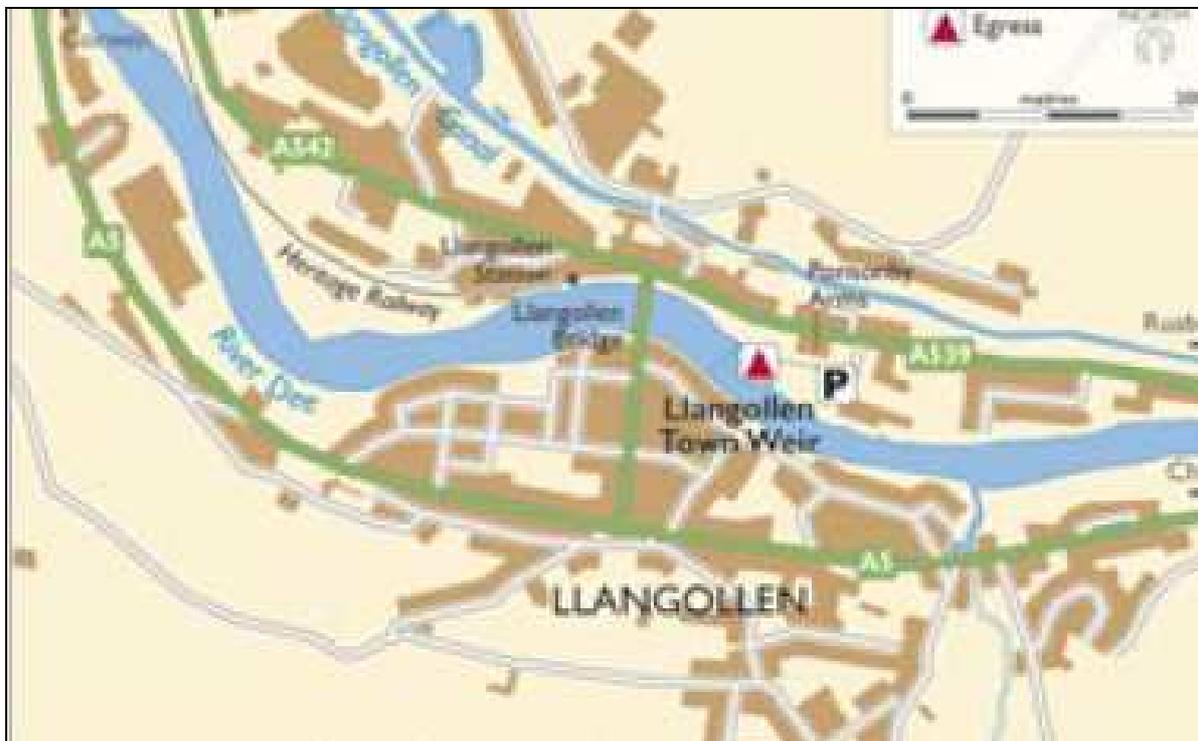
HORSESHOE FALLS



MILE END MILL



LLANGOLLEN TOWN WEIR

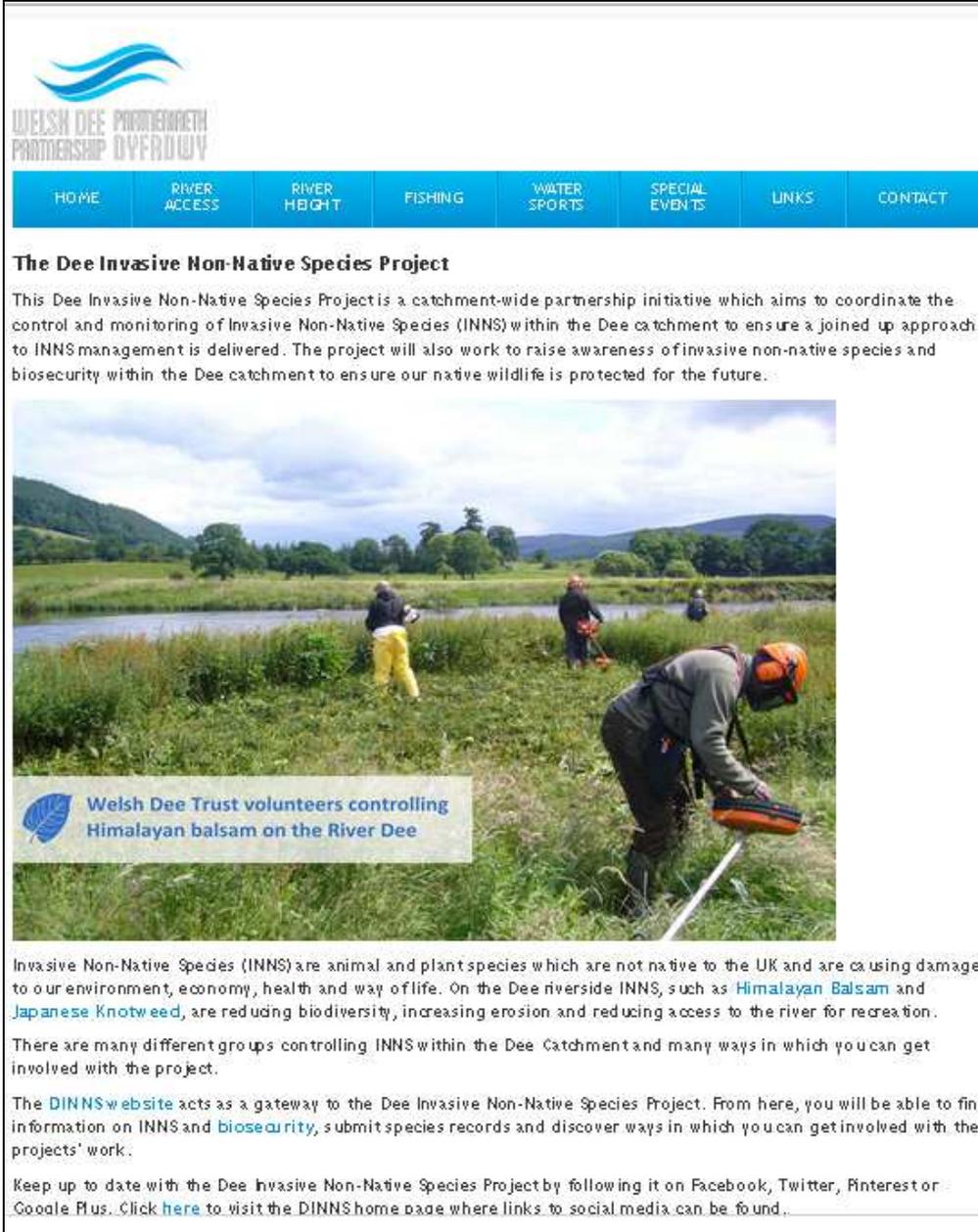


TY MAWR COUNTRY PARK



Web site updates

As part of its ongoing support for organisations involved in fighting INNS, we have created a dedicated Web page entitled The Dee Invasive Non-Native Species Project with full links to the www.dinns.org.uk Web page and to specific problem organisms.



The Dee Invasive Non-Native Species Project

This Dee Invasive Non-Native Species Project is a catchment-wide partnership initiative which aims to coordinate the control and monitoring of Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) within the Dee catchment to ensure a joined up approach to INNS management is delivered. The project will also work to raise awareness of invasive non-native species and biosecurity within the Dee catchment to ensure our native wildlife is protected for the future.

Welsh Dee Trust volunteers controlling Himalayan balsam on the River Dee

Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) are animal and plant species which are not native to the UK and are causing damage to our environment, economy, health and way of life. On the Dee riverside INNS, such as [Himalayan Balsam](#) and [Japanese Knotweed](#), are reducing biodiversity, increasing erosion and reducing access to the river for recreation.

There are many different groups controlling INNS within the Dee Catchment and many ways in which you can get involved with the project.

The [DINNS website](#) acts as a gateway to the Dee Invasive Non-Native Species Project. From here, you will be able to find information on INNS and [biosecurity](#), submit species records and discover ways in which you can get involved with the projects' work.

Keep up to date with the Dee Invasive Non-Native Species Project by following it on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest or Google Plus. Click [here](#) to visit the DINNS home page where links to social media can be found.

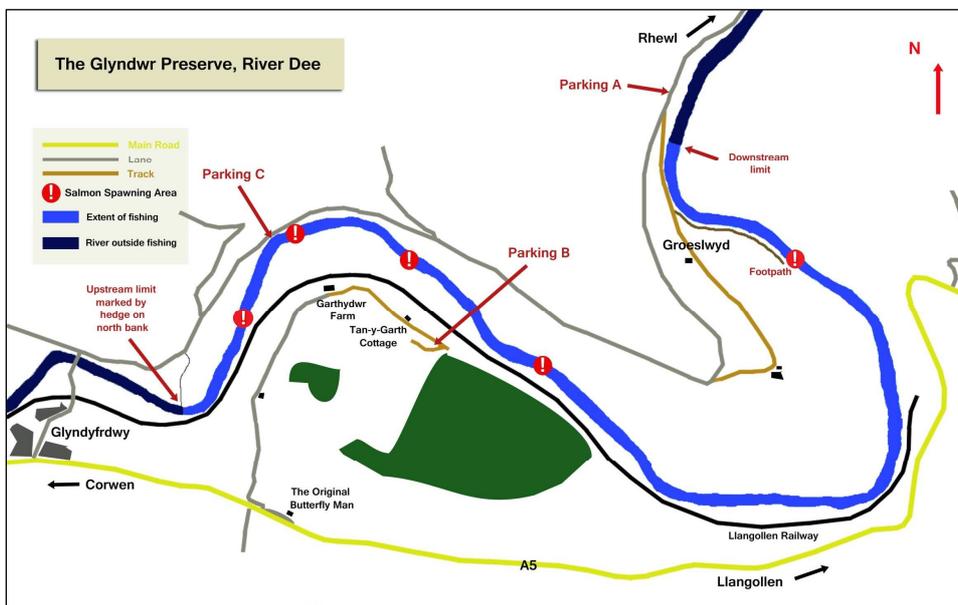
The page can be accessed via the LINKS tab in the navigation bar.

Events on the Dee – October



There's a Charity Steam Paddle in the aid of Muscular Dystrophy. The idea is to raise over £10,000 on the Saturday 18th Oct 2014 by having a paddle down the River Dee from Glyndyfrdwy to the Horseshoe Falls and then by canal to Llangollen. For more information or to book please see www.davemanby.co.uk/charity-steam-paddle/booking/

Day-Tickets from Midland Flyfishers



Set in the majestic Llangollen valley, the Midland Flyfishers Glyndwr Preserve offers 4 miles of double bank river Dee fishing. It is some of the best grayling fishing in the UK (the international grayling competition is held on the Dee every year) and has a fine head of wild brown trout. See map on following page.

Up to 8 day ticket

anglers can fish the water on any day (4 bookable via Wye & Usk Foundation – link and more detailed information can be found on the Fishing page of the WDP Web site www.welshdeepartnershipltd/fishing). Also, members of the club that own the water may be salmon fishing from 3rd March to 29th June, although it is unlikely that they will be on the water at this time (trout and grayling anglers must give way to salmon anglers). With 4 miles of river, however, there is easily enough space.

Wading is of mixed difficulty and care must be taken. Buoyancy aids must be worn at all times.

Rules and Regulations

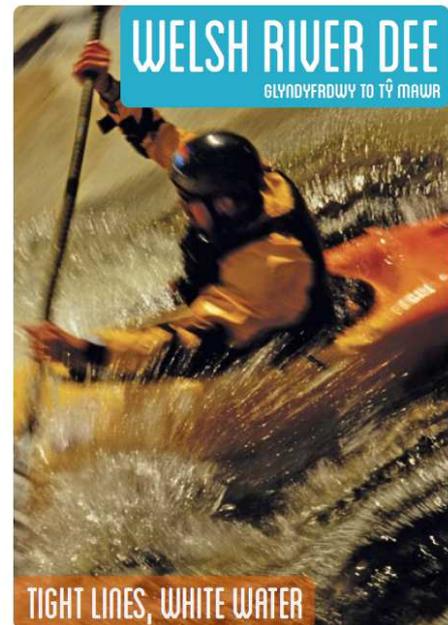
- NRW byelaws apply and it is the angler's responsibility to be aware of and to abide by these;
- Catch and release only for all species;
- Fly fishing only at all times of year;

- No dogs;
- Fishermen are asked to use barbless hooks or remove the barb. Please handle the fish with care and return fish to the water as soon as possible;
- It is a condition of day ticket purchase that every angler is to complete a catch return, either via the Foundation website, by email or by phone;
- Day ticket trout and grayling anglers must give way to salmon anglers.

Brochure

Entitled **WELSH RIVER DEE Glydyfrdwy to Ty Mawr** the new brochure is a 32-page bilingual (English / Welsh) which is under production. When printed, copies will be available to relevant local businesses and tourist centres / venues and the final copy will be downloadable as a pdf from our Web site.

If you have access to our Google drive, a draft copy is available in pdf format for you to view now.

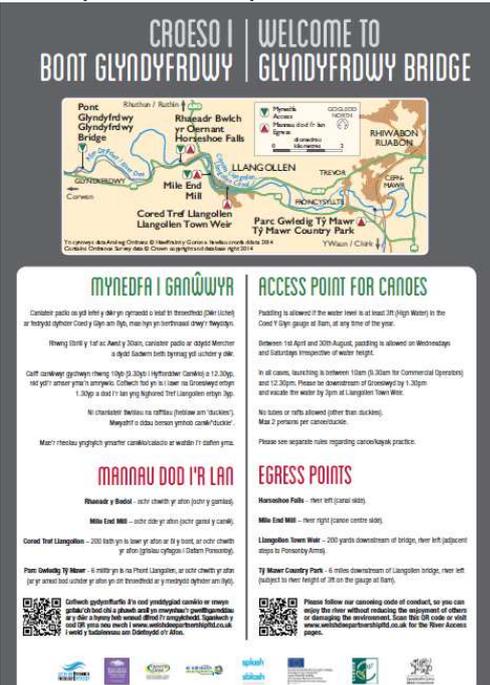


Signage

Signage has also been finalised and is at the production stage.

Access signs will be erected at Glydyfrdwy and at Horseshoe Falls and Egress signs at Horseshoe Falls, Mile End Mill, Llangollen Town Weir and Ty Mawr Country Park.

A couple of examples:




Social Media – Facebook

Although our 'Likes' on the Facebook page had increased somewhat, the page was a little soured by the sometimes vitriolic comments of those who disagree with what we are doing or our right to do it.

On 19th September, we suspended our Facebook page due to some rather 'ripe' language being used and will make announcements for the time being using our Web site.

Our final statement on the page for those of you who missed it was:

This Facebook page was closed temporarily because it has been subjected to extremist views from certain members of the canoeing fraternity who have made allegations of fraud and wrong-doing – which are completely without foundation.

The basic principle behind Welsh Dee Partnership (WDP) has always been to 'park at the door' differences in opinion concerning the law and navigation rights in order to improve relations between canoeists and anglers.

We will continue with that primary aim on behalf of the moderate parties from both sides.

We are not prepared to spend our small budget in dealing with the extremist views of either anglers or canoeists and respectfully suggest that those individuals who feel strongly about these matters, direct their views to other Web sites / discussion forums which have been set up for this purpose.

I (as Access Co-ordinator) have been instructed not to enter into any further eMail correspondence or Facebook responses, so that the small budget under which we operate can be used for the purposes for which WDP was originally set up.

We will be closing our Facebook page within 24 hours and making any further announcements via our Web site – www.welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk.

About Welsh Dee Partnership

In early 2012 the Welsh Dee Partnership was established to try and resolve issues on the river around the impact of increased canoeing activity on angling interests on the River Dee. The three angling clubs of Corwen and District Angling Association, Midland Flyfishers Ltd and Llangollen Maelor Angling brought together local commercial canoeing interests through the Welsh Dee Commercial Operators Group to agree access arrangements.

Extensive meetings have been held with Welsh Dee Commercial Operators Group, Natural Resources Wales, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Denbighshire County Council and angling clubs. This resulted in shared access arrangements being agreed in August 2012 for a stretch of the river from the Horseshoe Falls to Llangollen town weir 365 days of the year. In addition a high water level was set to allow access when the river is above a set height making it unsuitable for fishing. More recently, an access arrangement was concluded allowing paddlers along the stretch of the Dee between Glydyfrdwy and Horseshoe Falls at

specified certain times and conditions. See the Web site 'River Access' section for more information.

Receiving the newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter and be informed when a new copy is published, please send an eMail to info@welshdeepartnershipltd.co.uk. Similarly, if you do not wish to receive such notifications, please send an eMail with 'unsubscribe' in the title or use the unsubscribe function of our mailing service on the eMail you received.

Should there be any suggestions or topics/notifications you would like me to include in future – please let me know – **Tony Gaskin**



Water Recreation Challenge Fund for Wales



Asiantaeth Datblygu Gwledig
Rural Development Agency



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu
Gwledig: Ewrop yn Buddsoddi
mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig
The European Agricultural Fund for
Rural Development: Europe Investing in
Rural Areas



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government