

# SOME SPRINGTIME INFORMATION

## FISHING IN ASSYNT

One of the early land “buy outs” in Scotland was undertaken by the Assynt Crofters. A story in its own rights! I have fished there on and off since the mid 70s

Recently a video was made.

Here is the video from a recent trip, if you haven't seen it.

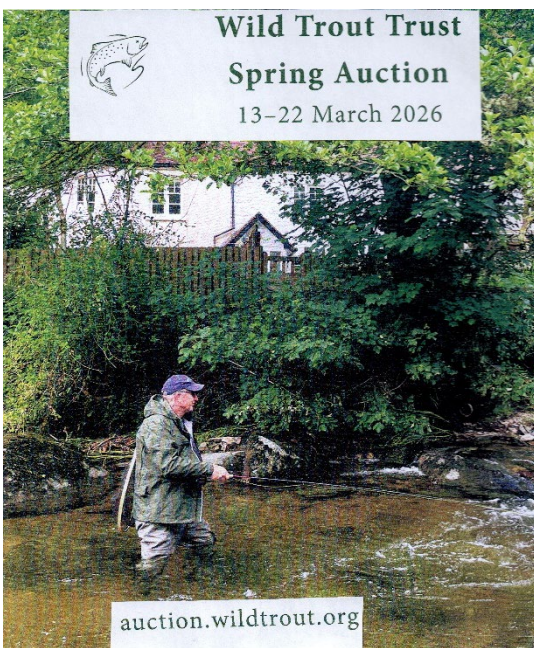
<https://youtu.be/UTWUvXJSqZY?si=u0xNRXviD5u5JEeL>

It is truly a wonderful place to visit. In addition to fishing there is also stalking available (see Business Links in my website for contact information).

This appears thanks to the generous nature of Lyn Davies who made this video. Lyn has other videos currently on You Tube.

## THE WONDERFUL 12<sup>th</sup>

No, not the August one – I mean the 12<sup>th</sup> of March one! It is the day when you need to **make your mind up** about bidding for auction lots in the Wild Trout Trust Spring Auction.



2025 saw a record sum raised to support this very pro-active charity. This year there are 447 Auction lots, 25 more than in 2025. Fingers crossed for another record result with the funds raised.

I think it is fair to say that there is something for all here!

## GIANT HOGWEED.

Hopefully (if the rain stops!) you will be back on a riverbank enjoying your fishing. You may also find you are sharing it with a nasty plant, one which you should avoid. The Prince Albert Fishing Society warned its many members about it, but in case your club has not, you can discover more by referring to the website shown below.

## Giant Hogweed

[www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)



Produced by Olaf Booy, Max Wade and Vicky White of RPS

Up to 3m

Sharply divided  
/serrated leaves

Bristles on  
underside

Seeds have dark  
stripes

(oil ducts) 2 on  
oneside, 4 on the  
reverse

1.5 cm

**Scientific name:** *Heracleum mantegazzianum*

**AKA:** Efwr enfawr (Welsh)

**Native to:** Caucasus mountains in south west  
Russia and Georgia

**Habitat:** Widespread, most common on river  
banks

## BASS FISHERMEN

Most of you will be aware that the catch limit has changed, for all types of fishing commercial and recreational. The daily limit for recreational fishing is three fish going up from two. The size limit remains at 42 centimetres.

## DDT IN TROUT.

Those of you who are under the age of fifty will perhaps wonder what **DDT** is all about? Canada's Mount Allison University has discovered "startling high rates of contamination" - some sixty years after use ceased.



For the older readers you may recall the outcry when it was discovered in penguins in Antarctica. It had never been used there! There was also an investigation into the higher than usual incidence of breast cancer in TWA (no longer exists) air

stewardesses. It was attributed to open spraying in aircraft, which was undertaken when landing at some locations, e.g., India!

## EUROPEAN PLAN FOR CORMORANTS.

A plan to tackle the ever-present damage occasioned by the increasing prevalence of cormorants.

With an increase from to 50,000 in the 1970s to 2 million today **in UK fisheries**. The draft plan drawn up by the Angling Trust was presented to the European Commission and UN Food and Agriculture body in October 2025. The estimated European consumption of fish, by cormorants, was put at 270,000 tons of fish per year!!

Action is obviously needed urgently. What is it to be Salmon and Seatrout or cormorants???

Thank you Trout & Salmon for reporting this.

## **UK's LIVING HERITAGE INVENTORIES.**

**You may not have heard that UNESCO is seeking views on what should be regarded as “heritage activities” in the UK, for being registered as such. An initial date for registering various sports and countryside activities is the 31<sup>st</sup> of March.**



**For more information go to [www.unesco.org.uk](http://www.unesco.org.uk)**

**I will be entering “angling/fishing” in the country activities!  
Over to you on this one.**

## **AND FINALLY**

**Enjoy the start of your season, wherever you fish and stay safe, please. Make sure you enjoy the environment.**

