



# Kyle Lines



## *The Newsletter for Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries - August 2014*

### *New Bailiff Staff*

The Kyle bailiff team has been boosted in the last two months due to Iain Gollan, John Audsley and Ross Skeffington joining the Fishery Board staff on a seasonal basis. Iain will be known to many as until recently he was a local police officer. John Audsley has previous experience of bailiffing having been employed by the Nith District Salmon Fishery Board. Ross is the youngest member of the team and is picking up useful work experience over the summer months. No doubt the new faces will introduce themselves to the ghillies over the remainder of the season.

### *Trial Seine Netting in the Kyle*

In conjunction with Marcus Walters of the Moray Firth Trout Initiative and a number of volunteers a trial seine netting was undertaken on the netsmen's gangway in Bonar Bridge. A number of different species of fish were captured including salmon parr, trout, flounder, sticklebacks and eels as well as a very large number of crabs! Of particular interest was the number of salmon parr captured which illustrates that salmon production is not entirely restricted to the rivers in the Kyle of Sutherland district. Handling a large net with a small mesh size in such a strong tidal flow was certainly an interesting experience! It is hoped that similar nettings will be undertaken in the future as time and resources allow.



### *Elections and AGMs*

As the fishing season draws to a close the meeting season will come into full swing once again. Dates and further details of the Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board and Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust meeting are to be found in the Diary Dates section at the end of the newsletter. We hope that there will be a good turnout of both the river proprietors and river workers at the meetings and we particularly look forward to welcoming people to our new office premises. Please get in touch if you plan to attend. We also hope to have the River Workers meeting with a provisional date of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September pencilled into the diary.



## *The Salmon's Tale*

Education and outreach is an important part of the activities of the Fisheries Trust and during the year a series of events have been held in conjunction with the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust who initiated the programme. Earlier in the year Kyle Fisheries staff showed members of the public how the smolt traps on the Upper Shin catchments worked. In the latest events, electrofishing of juvenile salmon and trout was the focus. The events were well

attended with a special mention going to Leanne Donochie (pictured above) who travelled from Aberdeenshire and camped in a tent overnight in order to attend the event! In November attempts will be made to spot spawning salmon and there will also be visits to the Kincardine Hatchery. If you know of anybody who is interested in attending the next events then please get in touch with the Development Trust [www.kyleofsutherland.co.uk](http://www.kyleofsutherland.co.uk)

## *In Brief*

Many thanks to fishery board member William Patterson (pictured right) for hosting a visit to the Portmahomack bag nets by the Kyle bailiffing team. The day gave a practical insight into how the nets work, particularly the leader arrangements...

A second sawbill count in the catchment is expected to take place soon, details to follow...

We hope to arrange a first aid course for the winter months, please get in touch if your first aid qualifications need updating...

Keith Williams recently attended a meeting of the Institute of Fishery Management and River Directors Group with Andrew Thin of the Wild Fisheries Review Group. The final report is now being drafted and will go out to consultation.

Keep up to date at: [www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine/salmon-trout-coarse/fishreview](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/marine/salmon-trout-coarse/fishreview)



## *Diary Dates*

**September 25<sup>th</sup>** Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust AGM. 6.30pm, Kyle Fisheries Office.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>** Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board Meeting. 9.30am, Kyle Fisheries Office.

**November 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>** The Salmon's Tale - Spawning.

## *Keep in Touch*

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