

The Exe Carnarvon Fishing Club

The Poet Laureate Alfred, Lord Tennyson, stayed at the Carnarvon Arms in June 1891. Tennyson later referred to the Exe Valley as "a land of bubbling streams". Until the 1950s a tree stump below Perry Weir was known as Tennyson's Oak. Local legend has it that it was while sitting under this oak that the poet began his famous poem "The Brook".

Club tips...

The Exe and Barle are spate driven rivers, so it is vitally important to other club members to inform the fishing club manager should you have an encounter with a salmon. Enabling many of them to plan their week ahead.

Fly fishing is the favored method of fishing for club members. Should you wish to spin, or if conditions dictate, could you please use a single 'pinched' or barbless hook on your lure.

Salmon

The Clubs' water offers a variety of interesting small spate river salmon fishing. We are very much at the mercy of prevailing conditions but ever hopeful of finding the river dropping and clearing after heavy warm rainfall.

Tackle for the river is straight forward a 9.5' - 11' single handed rod capable of casting a 7 weight line, a selection of slow sinking, sink tip and floating fly lines to match rod, 8 - 15lbs nylon and a selection of flies ranging from size 10 - 6 doubles to 2" tubes and waddingtons. Black and Orange are good colours. Chest waders are very useful, coupled , with a wading staff if you are are unfamiliar with the river bed.

Brown Trout

The Beat can produce some superb wild brown trout fishing. We also stock the beats every year with 8-10" brown trout. To get the best out of the river it pays to adopt a stealthy approach and use the finest of tackle. A selection of dry flies in sizes 18 -12 should be carried.. Useful patterns are Tups Indispensable, Grey Duster, Rough Olive, Black Gnat, Greenwells, Iron Blue and March Brown. A selection of nymphs to include Pheasant Tail and Gold Ribbed Hares Ear are required when the fish are not on the surface. A good tip, would also be to carry some very heavily weighted patterns to use in the deep fast pools.

Grayling

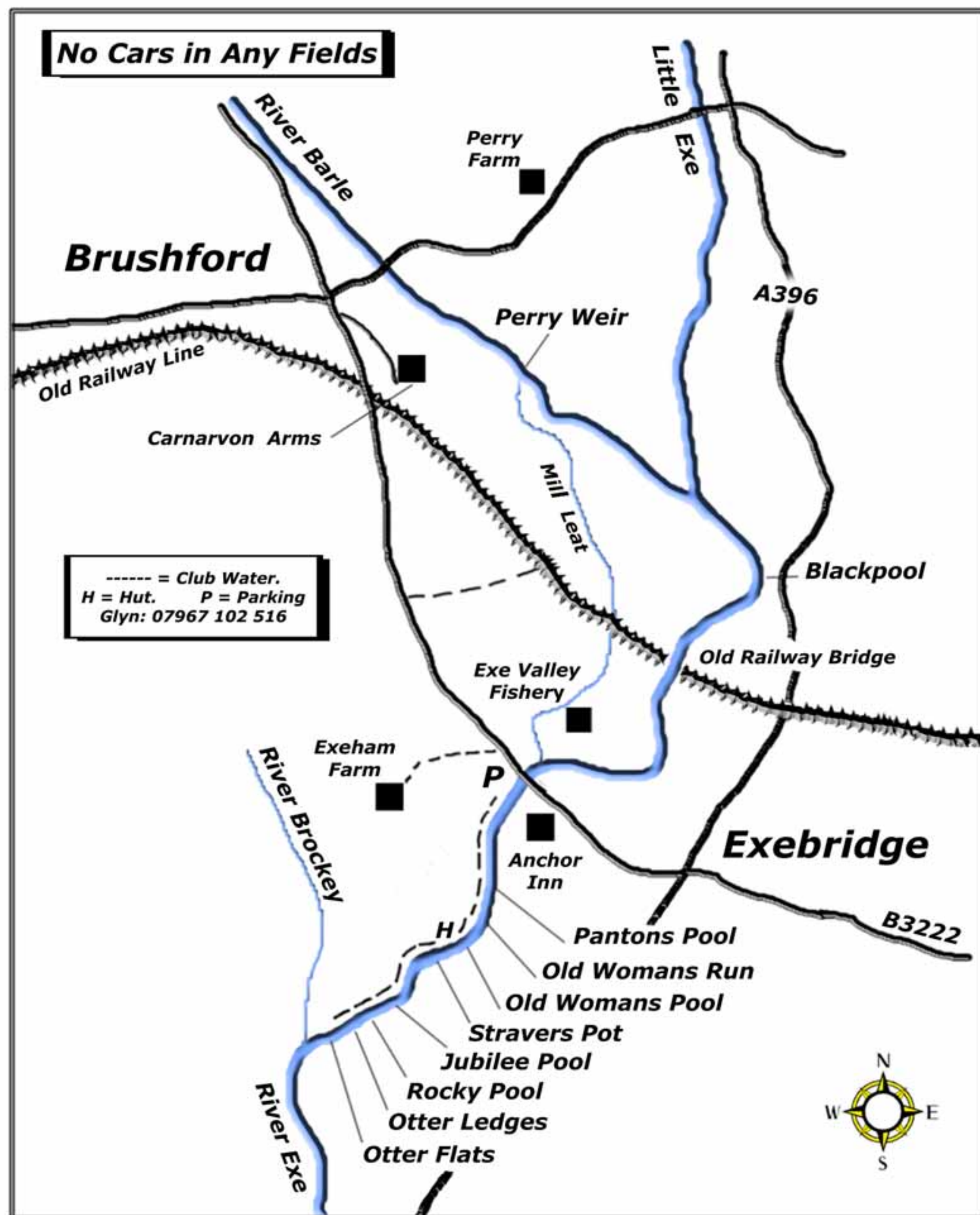
The presence of grayling in a river used to be considered a nuisance. However nowadays lots of anglers derive a great deal of pleasure fly fishing for grayling during the trout close season and catching grayling whilst trout angling during the summer months. Autumn and winter fly fishing for grayling when the fish are in their prime and excellent sport can be enjoyed. River fly fishermen who really need to escape the "cabin fever" during the short days of winter can put away the fly tying vice for a while and go fishing.

Sea Trout

The Exe is not renowned as a sea trout river, although if you check our catch records, they show that if fished for, the Exe might just surprise you.

Rainbow

Rainbow trout are not indigenous to the river and if caught should not be returned. Club members also make themselves aware of the RETA Voluntary Code for the catch and release of salmon. The club prefers that all members follow this code.



Exebridge to the River Brockey

Including Old Womans Pool and Otter Ledges. Approx 1,000 metres single bank on the Exe. Salmon 5 year average 1996 - 2000 17 fish. This stretch is both attractive and productive with its many pools. The fishing on this beat is only on the right bank.

Pantons Pool

This pool should be fished with chest waders from the middle of the river. Cast back towards our bank. Fish the run out very carefully.

Old Womans Run

This is first class fly water. Fish all of it well. Salmon will lie in any of the holes between rocks on the far bank, and you will often get a take on the dangle on this stretch.

Old Womans Pool

The ledge and tail will hold fish if they are in the upper river. Try heavily weighted flies or sink tip lines if the water is up. Top Tip: Don't rush the hut on arrival at the water. Fish the run in and the pool before decanting into the hut.

Stravers Pot, Jubilee and Rocky Pool

The area can hold salmon in any reasonable water height. All should be fished. It's also excellent trout water. In the right height of water you should be able to enter the water at the top of Old Womans Run and not leave the water until the tail of Rocky Pool.

Otter Ledges and Otter Flats

Look for any deeper gullies in the rocks. Fish tend to lie on the opposite side of Otter Flats, in good numbers, if conditions are suitable.

Access & Parking

There are 2 designated parking spaces at the top of the beat in the South West Water enclosure. (see map) The fishing hut, is by kind permission of the respective landowners. Please leave it tidy. Keys available on request.

At All Times

Please observe normal etiquette when the opposite bank is being fished - moving one good pace downstream between each cast and not entering the water downstream of a rod on the opposite bank.