

## LOUGH CARRA TROUT ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

### Secretary's Report for 1991.

Membership: 183 an increase of 70 on previous year

#### Competitions:

Trout: May 13th - 1st Prize Players Cup for heaviest fish - D.McMahon - 3lbs.  
2nd Prize - Duffy Cup for heaviest bag of fish - D.McMahon - 4 fish 11 lbs 6oz.  
3rd Prize - T.Dunleavy - 4 fish 6lbs 11oz.  
4th Prize - P.Munroe - 4 fish 5lbs 11oz.  
Youth Prize - London Cup - D.McGowan - 1 fish 1lb.12oz.  
78 Rods, 30 Fish Caught, Weight 52lbs 12oz.

Trout: Aug 25th - No fish caught due to conditions and was held again on September 1st in similar conditions.  
1st Prize - Moran Cup for heaviest fish - E.Kennedy 1lb.15oz. No other fish were caught.  
20 Rods, 1 Fish Caught 1lb.12oz.

Pike: April 14th.

1st Prize Heaviest fish - S. Mullarkey 134lbs  
2nd Prize Greatest Number - P. Munroe 2 fish 94lbs.  
3rd Prize JJ. McGowan 2 fish 5 1/2lbs.  
23 Rods 7 fish caught weight 36 1/2lbs.

Pike: Oct. 13th.

1st Prize-Western Hats Cup for heaviest fish - D.O'Brien 19lbs 3oz.  
2nd Prize-Greatest No. of fish-J.Hamrock, 4 fish 7lbs 8oz.  
3rd Prize Ml.Murphy, 3 fish 21 lbs 13oz.

Pike: Oct. 20th.

1st Prize-Heaviest fish-J.Hamrock, 14lbs 8oz.  
2nd Prize-Greatest Number-E.Finlay, 2 fish 9lbs 6oz.  
3rd Prize-T.Baynes 1 fish 13lbs 7oz.

Pike: Oct. 27th

Overall catch for 3 Sundays 13th,20th,27th October.  
1st Prize-D.O'Brien - 6 fish - 57lbs 15oz.  
2nd Prize-J.Hamrock - 5 fish - 22lbs.  
3rd Prize-E.Finlay - 4 fish - 42lbs.  
4th Prize-Ml.Mrphy - 4 fish - 24lbs 1oz.  
39 Rods - 40 fish Weight 223 1/2 lbs.

This competition was sponsored by Mayo Flycraft, Warnants and Finlays Garage.

The Willie Lavelle Cup for heaviest trout caught during the

season was won by B. Crowley with a fish 7lbs. 10s

The angling returns from Carra for 1991 were poor and were well below the previous season's standard. Could it be that one of the reasons was due to the overfishing of the lake in 1990 by excessive numbers of anglers. Had this situation continued in 1991 stocks of trout for spawning purposes would have been seriously reduced. Also the proliferation of pike in the lake had an effect on the trout stock. The mayfly hatch in 1991 was the heaviest that this writer had ever experienced with very intense hatches on 14th and 16th May and hatches continued until the middle of August.

The Club purchased 210 tons of gravel (costing £1,350) and this was put into the streams with the assistance of Western Regional Fisheries Board staff. The Ballinrobe Anglers also put in gravel into the streams. From later observations the trout made full use of this gravel for spawning. The W.R.F.B. staff put 200,000 imfed fry into the streams in April and a further 50,000 fingerlings were put into the lake during the Summer to augment the stock. There has been no Pike Control on the Lake since 1988 and consequently the pike stock has increased considerably. The committee has requested the W.R.F.B. to resume pike control and they will do so from the Spring of 1992 onwards. Three extra pike competitions were held in April and October and a total of 40 pike weighing 224 lbs were caught. There was favourable reaction to these competitions as they got rid of some pike and also shortened the close season for members. It is hoped that these will continue in '92 with increased support.

Regarding the future of angling on Lough Carra and indeed all the trout lakes, there must be co-operation between the clubs and the fisheries Boards to work to hold the stocks at present level if possible. In order to do this, money is required and all anglers, whether they are members of clubs or not, must be prepared to make a contribution to provide some necessary finance.

I would like to thank Mr. M. Kennedy, Mgr. W.R.F.B. for his assistance and co-operation and look forward to more of the same in '92. Thanks also to Tony Baynes for supplying his caravan and public address system for the May competition. This really helped the competition and also gathered a lot of extra memberships. Thanks to the local Press and Radio for giving the Club publicity, when requested, during the year. There were 8 committee meetings held during the year and these were well attended for which I thank the members concerned.