

# Fishing – celebrities home in on UCAPA birthday bash



Mauldslie Bridge in the Clyde Valley, setting for the first cast in the 2017 salmon season on the river

A number of Edinburgh-based anglers, myself included, who fish The Clyde, and the United Clyde Angling Protective Association (UCAPA) plan a major event on Saturday, 11 February 2017.

It is based around the popular Popinjay Hotel, Lanark Road, Rosebank (ML8 5QB) and it is the 130th birthday bash for the organisation. It coincides with the opening of the salmon season on the river.

Complimentary hot filled rolls, tea, coffee, confectionary and a dram will be on offer along with a prize draw.

The traditional bagpipe procession will leave the hotel at 11.30am and proceed to Mauldslie Bridge to toast the river and open the 2017 salmon season.

Tackle manufacturer Daiwa Sports will be there along with internally-renowned angler and TV presenter Hywel Morgan who features in several really helpful presentations on YouTube.

Well-known Scottish actor Paul Young (who has appeared in Still Game, among other TV shows), and is described as an angling legend, will also be present along with world-rated Scots fly tyer, Davie McPhail. His fly tying clips on YouTube are well worth visiting.

Other special guests include the Semperfli Fly Tying pro team (Jim Lees, Peter McCallum and Sandy Dickson) and Sharpes Gentles fly tying club.

Tom McGregor, secretary of UCAPA, said the main sponsors are Daiwa and The Popinjay Hotel.

He added: "Daiwa, the tackle manufacturer, is currently celebrating 40 years of trading in nearby Wishaw.

"They are bringing Hywell (Morgan) up from Wales to talk to anglers. Hywell cast the first fly for us last year. Paul (Young) did the same the previous year and both celebrities will be present this year, but in a much less formal role. They love talking to anglers.

"We have asked our oldest director, George Thomson, who has served the association for at least 60 years, to cast the first fly this year.

"Aileen Campbell is the Scottish Government Minister for Public Health and Sport and the MSP for Clydesdale constituency and will also be there."

Looks like a good day out and lets us hope the weather is kind.