

[Press release: North East men fined for illegal fishing](#)

The Environment Agency is reminding anglers of the importance of having a rod licence after two men were fined for fishing illegally in separate offences.

They were caught during targeted patrols on the River Derwent in Gateshead by Environment Agency Fisheries Enforcement Officers

On 28 March this year, Kyle Taylor-Allen, 30, of The Crescent, Dunston, Gateshead, was found coarse fishing at Swalwell without a licence.

He was also fishing during the close season, which is prohibited, and using illegal bait. He was fined a total of £770, ordered to pay costs of £127 and a victim surcharge of £30.

On 13 April this year, Peter Blackett, 53, of Waterbeach Place, Newcastle, was found fishing without a licence at Rowlands Gill.

He was also fishing during close season, using an illegal bait and he had taken and killed a fish while fishing without the landowner's permission, an offence under the Theft Act.

The offences were all proved in absence at Gateshead Magistrates' Court on 3 July.

'It's vital anglers abide by the law'

Fisheries Enforcement Officer David Shears said: "It's vital that anglers abide by the law to protect the future of the sport and the quality of our rivers and fisheries.

"We work closely with our partners at the police, angling clubs and the Angling Trust to identify where illegal fishing might be taking place.

"Our fisheries enforcement officers work hard to target those people flouting the law and we won't hesitate to take action.

"Illegal fishing can be more costly than you think and hopefully this will act as a deterrent for any angler thinking of cheating the system."

The close season started on 15 March and runs for three months, preventing fishing for coarse fish to give the fish a chance to breed.

All income from rod licence sales is used to fund Environment Agency work to protect and improve fish stocks and fisheries, including improving habitats for fish and facilities for anglers, tackling illegal fishing and working with partners to encourage people to give fishing a go.

[News story: Successful reclassification of Nasonex Allergy Control Nasal Spray](#)

Nasonex Allergy Control 0.05% Nasal Spray will soon be available to buy over the counter in pharmacies following a public consultation by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). This nasal spray is used to treat the symptoms of allergic rhinitis such as sneezing and a runny, itchy or blocked up nose which may be caused by hay fever.

Nasonex Allergy Control is a nasal spray containing an active ingredient called mometasone furoate. This is the first product containing mometasone furoate to be available without prescription. MHRA are committed to involving people in their healthcare, and to widen access to medicines for the benefit of public health when it is safe to do.

[News story: New £1 coin: Exchequer Secretary strikes billionth new pound](#)

The billionth new £1 coin passed through the Royal Mint's production line today, as Brits get ready to bid farewell to the old round pound.

Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Andrew Jones MP, paid a visit to the Royal Mint headquarters in Wales to officially mark the milestone and strike the billionth coin with the Queen's head.

By mid-July there will be more new coins in circulation than old. People have already returned 800 million of the old coins, which entered circulation in 1983.

However, a new poll suggests one in three people still have old pound coins stashed away in savings jars and piggy banks. Therefore there is still work to do.

The Minister is today calling on the public to dig out these old coins before they lose their legal tender status on 15 October.

Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Andrew Jones MP, said:

We are here today to mark an important milestone, as the billionth new pound coin is struck.

This coin is the most secure of its kind in the world and was brought in to clamp down on the multi million pound cost of counterfeits.

In less than 100 days, the round pound will lose its legal status. So people need to spend, bank or donate them by 15 October.

CEO and Deputy Master of The Royal Mint, Adam Lawrence, said:

The Royal Mint is very proud to have delivered the new 12-sided one pound coin and ensuring a smooth transition is now our top priority.

Many of the old round pounds returned will be melted down to make the new coins so we're asking everyone across the UK to make sure they check their coin jars and piggy banks for round pounds.

[News story: The Sun Military Awards 2017 open for nominations](#)

Nominations are now open for The Sun Military Awards 2017. Members of the Armed Forces and the general public have until 3 Sept to put forward individuals and units for an award.

The awards were first held at Hampton Court Palace in 2008 and the 10th ceremony will take place for the first time at the historic Banqueting House, in Whitehall in Central London. The star-studded evening will be an opportunity for the public to recognise some of the excellent work and outstanding achievements of our Service personnel over the last year both overseas on operations and across the UK.

Over the years, the Millies have been attended by HRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, along with senior politicians and celebrities from the worlds of entertainment and sport.

Following the success of a number of new award categories in 2016, the Millies will again include the Inspiring Others Award – honouring individuals in the Services and Cadet Forces who have inspired others to achieve more through their awe-inspiring example. The Award organisers are also asking for nominations in the Innovation Award category, which recognises firms or

individuals who have developed game-changing or life-saving pieces of equipment. Last year's winner was Trauma Simulation Ltd, a firm backed by the MOD that developed realistic, life-size models to help surgeons train on battle-casualty injuries.

Last year's winner in the Hero at Home category was Sgt Adam Threlfall, Airborne Delivery Wing, who provided vital first aid to two fellow parachutists who became entangled in an uncontrolled descent, and Best Reservist Lieutenant Ruairi Holohan, who was honoured for helping migrants rescued from the Mediterranean by HMS Bulwark.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

The Millies are a fantastic opportunity to demonstrate to the nation why we have the best Armed Forces in the world and show our heartfelt appreciation for all that they do. I would like to thank The Sun for hosting this event for the last 10 years to recognise the outstanding achievements of our brave Servicemen and women who help keep this country safe.

Chief of the Defence Staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach said:

Be it individuals or units, Reservists or Regulars, heroic acts or overcoming personal adversity, developing life-saving technology or inspiring others in their local community, this is your chance to nominate the Servicemen and women of the Armed Forces who serve on your behalf every day.

An awards ceremony will be held at Banqueting House, Westminster on 13 December. Do you know of an individual or unit that has performed with distinction between 1 Sept 2016 and 31 Aug 2017? This is your opportunity to give them the credit they deserve by visiting [The Sun's website](#). Nominations will close on 3 Sept 2017.

The Sun Military Awards categories are:

1. Hero at Home (Individual): Awarded to an individual from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF for an act of inspirational heroism inside the UK whether in the course of their work, outside of their work or on an operation. Nominees should include those who have truly gone above and beyond in a single act of bravery or dedication.
2. Heroes at Home (unit): Awarded to a unit from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF for an act or continued effort in the UK in the highest traditions of the Armed Forces. The unit can be of any size and nominees must have proved themselves on an enduring mission or single response which is worthy of national recognition.

3. Hero Overseas (individual): Awarded to an individual from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF for an act of inspirational heroism outside the UK in the course of their deployment. Nominees should include those who have truly gone above and beyond in a single act of bravery or dedication.
4. Heroes Overseas (unit): Awarded to a unit from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF for an act or continued effort in outside the UK in the highest traditions of the Armed Forces. The unit can be of any size and nominees must have proved themselves on an enduring mission or single response which is worthy of national recognition.
5. Best Reservist: Awarded to an individual Reservist from any branch of the Reserves for an act of bravery or exceptional service at home or abroad. Nominees should have gone above and beyond in their role as a committed reservist and be worthy of recognition for a single act of heroism, or for exceptional dedication.
6. Inspiring Others: A new award for 2016 honouring individuals from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF, but also the Cadet Forces including cadets and adult volunteers who, through their awe-inspiring example, have inspired others to go further and achieve more. Individuals could be nominated who have inspired others to greater heights in their work, but also outside their day job.
7. Overcoming Adversity: Awarded to an individual from the Royal Navy, Army or RAF who has overcome personal adversity in any area of their life. Traditionally this award had gone to those who have overcome injury in conflict, and while this category is still very much open to those who have beaten the odds to survive and thrive, it is also open to those who have overcome any kind of adversity, whether that be an underprivileged background, or disability, to go on to exceptional service.
8. Innovation Award: A new award for 2016 open to an individual or company of any size which has designed, developed and delivered a piece of life-saving or game-changing equipment that is transforming the work of our Armed Forces at home and abroad. This award is not restricted to a piece of kit but can be a system, scheme or employment programme that is a true innovation.
9. Support to the Armed Forces: Awarded to a civilian charity, group or company that has delivered unrivalled support to the Armed Forces community, to sustain and encourage them in any facet of military life, and life after service.
10. Judges' Award: Awarded at the Judges' discretion to any individual, group or unit, to honour exceptional service worthy of recognition.

Speech: Open markets and free trade will help Africa help itself

The migrant crisis on Europe's doorstep has returned to the headlines. In reality, it never went away; people are fleeing war, persecution, or just seeking a better life in unprecedented numbers.

The pressure will grow unless we take urgent steps to address the drivers of this crisis. In Africa, 55,000 jobs will need to be created every day just to absorb new entrants into the workforce by 2035. If the economic aspirations of this young population cannot be met in their own countries, we will see more uncontrolled and unsustainable migration.

Britain is at the forefront of the response. We are taking immediate steps to protect our borders and tackle people smuggling. But the only way to resolve this crisis in the long term is to address the root causes. We need to create jobs across Africa and provide its growing population with a route out of poverty where they are.

Workers at a power plant in Tanzania that has benefited from UK investment.
Picture: CDC

The case for open markets, free trade, private investment and technology has never been stronger in development. Over the decades, this combination has driven down poverty, helped to tackle disease, and created jobs across the globe. This is how we can transform the poorest parts of the world and, ultimately, end Africa's reliance on aid.

Earlier this year, I launched my Department's first [Economic Development Strategy](#), setting out how we will catalyse more investment in job-creating industries.

Meanwhile, our new [London Centre for Global Disaster Protection](#) will help to halve the cost of disasters and will reduce the poorest countries' dependency on emergency aid. Providing expert advice, so that developing countries can better understand and access insurance that works for them, will help protect millions of people against crises and reduce our contributions over time.

There is much we can do that is in both our interests. British firms are well placed to be Africa's market makers, and the City can become the finance hub of choice. So we have announced support to help Africa integrate into global financial markets, paving the way for a strong partnership with the City.

Rashidat, 18, an entrepreneur in Nigeria, who's been helped to start a jewellery business through a Mercy Corps programme supported by UK aid.
Picture: Mercy Corps/C Robbins

As we exit the EU and reassert ourselves as a great global trading nation, we have a unique opportunity to redefine our relationship with Africa. There are relatively few consumers in Africa for UK products. But with the right growth, it could be a much bigger market. We need to make globalisation work better for Africa by buying African products and laying the foundations for strong future trading partnerships.

That is why the Government has confirmed to the world's poorest countries, including 34 in Africa, that when we leave the EU we will secure their existing duty-free access to UK markets. This is a clear example of this Government using a range of policies – not just aid – to support development.

There are no quick fixes to the problems Africa faces, but if we want to stop the appalling scenes we are seeing in the Mediterranean right now, we need a new long-term approach. This means using UK aid to help the world's poorest, and ensuring what we spend and how we spend it is in Britain's own interest.

In a world of serious threats, Britain stands tall, saving lives and building a more prosperous, stable future for all.