

Cinder Hill Trouting Syndicate

NEWSLETTER, SUMMER 2018

Up to the middle of June since our season started on the 1st March at Piplye and 1st April at Cinder Hill, the fishing has been quite good with a high proportion of members catching their 3 fish limit and very few blanks recorded, the biggest fish being a fine rainbow weighing 4lb 12oz from Grubbero Pool at Piplye, caught by Kevin Reeves on the 26th April on a Montana. The best from Cinder Hill, captured by Amanda Ince on a Gold Ribbed Hares Ear, from Hurstwood Pool on the 14th April, weighed 4lb and there has been several other fish caught in excess of 3lb.

However, during June and July, we have suffered heatwave conditions, with daytime temperatures often in the thirties, with virtually no rain to speak of, resulting in the flows in the feeder streams reducing to a mere trickle and water levels dropping to below the outlet cills or monks on some of the lakes.

We have been monitoring the water quality over this period and the water temperatures have invariably increased to in excess of 20 degrees, at which trout, especially rainbows, which are a cold water fish, will be decidedly unhappy and 25 degrees will kill them. Unfortunately we have lost a few fish, but thankfully, the dissolved oxygen levels still appear quite good, so hopefully the fish will still be able to find cooler water in the deeper areas of the lakes, where they will probably sulk and show little interest in feeding or attacking our flies.

Up to the end of July, members and guests have fished on 425 occasions, a total of 1482 fish have been stocked, 656 at Cinder Hill and 826 at Piplye, with a total of 718 having been caught, so there are plenty of fish left in all the lakes. However, given the hot conditions, catches are likely to be very few and far between, with very early in the morning or late evening probably offering the best chance of any real success.

Further stocking has been suspended until things cool off, however, one benefit of this postponement will be that when further introductions do take place, the fish should be a bit larger as they have had more time to grow on at the fish farm.

Thankfully we have now had some worthwhile rain and, with the daytime temperature now much cooler, although it's said to be average for the time of the year, we can only hope that conditions improve for the fish and the fishing in good time for stocking to resume for the autumn.

Work Parties

Eight work parties have been held so far this year and a great deal of work has been done to try and keep the banks clear and the waters as weed free as possible to allow access for members to fish.

As well as the usual ten or so members who regularly attend the work parties, it was good to see several new faces turning out to help. Many are new to the Syndicate and we hope the experience won't have put them off and that they have enjoyed their fishing so far this season.

We acknowledge that many members, either through age, infirmity or work issues etc are unable to attend the work parties, but would suggest that helping out is all part of belonging to a club or syndicate, it is an excellent opportunity to meet other members and to pick their brains as to successful flies or methods which can only enhance the fly fishing experience. One can do as much or as little as one feels able, every little bit helps.



We have scheduled a further work party at **Piplye** for **Wednesday 29th August** in order to tackle the weed which has sprung up in Grubbero Pool, particularly along the dam side of the lake where the water is shallow, in readiness for the autumn fishing. Thankfully, due to all the work put in earlier in the summer, at the moment Piplye Pool remains relatively clear.

Old clothes and wellies are recommended as one can get pretty wet and tools required are rakes and forks. Chest or waist waders would be useful if you have them as one can wade out a fair way in the shallow water. As usual we will muster on site at around 9 a.m.

It would be helpful if possible, that members please let us know if they are able to attend, otherwise just turn up, there will be plenty for you to do. The sessions usually finish around 1pm and members often bring along their fishing gear and, if they still have the energy, fish for an hour or two afterwards.

Don't forget, that for every session a member attends, they gain an addition fishing visit.

Match Versus the Sussex Branch of the Fly Dressers Guild

The Annual Match between 12 man teams from a combined Syndicate and S&TCUK Sussex Branch members against the Sussex Branch of the Fly Dressers Guild was held on Saturday the 14th of April and, once again, took place at Duncton Mill near Petworth in West Sussex.

It was a cool misty morning and visibility on the drive over there was not good. However, everyone arrived safely at around 8:30am and, as usual, a welcome cup of coffee was available in the Lodge. The draw for the order of lakes to be fished took place at 9:00am and all set off in the mist to fish their first lake, with the mist seeming to become even more dense for a while, before eventually the sun managed to burn it off by mid-morning.

Some fish were caught within minutes of arriving at the waterside but it took others some time and a few flies snagged in trees before managing to break their duck and land their first fish and by the time the bell rang to change lakes for the second session, most people had been lucky and caught at least one. All moved to their second lake at 11:45am and continued to fish until 1pm when everyone made their way back to the Lodge where once again an excellent lunch was provided by Martin and Caroline.

At 2pm we made our way back to our final lake of the day and fish continued to be caught in the afternoon until the final bell at 4pm, when all convened for the weigh-in back at the lodge.

A good number had managed to achieve their 4 fish limit, but unfortunately for us, the Fly Dressers had managed to catch a greater number of fish, with two or three being over 4lb, with the result that they therefore retained the Trophy for yet another year.

However, it was a very enjoyable day and the weather had been good once the mist cleared.

We last won the trophy in 2014, surely it has to be our turn again soon.

McMillan Nurses Charity Fishing Day, Sunday 20th May

What a stunning day we had for the McMillan Charity fishing day at Piplye Lakes, where 12 members and guests attended and all caught wonderful hard fighting fish.

Thanks are due to our great chefs Val, Mandy and Lucy for a fantastic barbecue and to Caroline Yuill for the extra cakes. We raised a total of £281 for the Charity which was a great result.

Peter & Maureen Byford from the Charity spent most of the day with us and even caught a trout, Peter making a very good speech at the end of the day, thanking us for our fund raising efforts and hospitality. This is the second year we have held such an event and we plan to repeat it again in 2019.

McMillan Nurses Charity Fishing Day (continued)



South of England Show 2018

The South of England Show was held at Ardingly this year on the 7th 8th and 9th June and, as usual, the Cinder Hill Fly Fishing Syndicate and the Sussex Branch of S&TUK were present.

The Thursday and Friday were a bit cloudy to start with, but there were long periods of warm sunshine, while Saturday was warm and sunny all day and the visitors were out in force.



Encouraging numbers of the people visited the tent during the day and approximately fifteen signed up for our "Taster Sessions" with a view to joining the Cinder Hill Syndicate, while several existing Syndicate and Sussex Branch S&TC members called into the tent to say Hello.

The instructors were kept very busy with large numbers of both adults and juniors wanting to "Have-a-Go" at fly casting.



Once again, we make no apologies for mentioning our hard working band of volunteer instructors as well as Syndicate and Sussex Branch S&TC members without whom it would not be possible for us to attend these shows which are so valuable in helping with recruitment to the Syndicate and S&TC UK. The show was a great success and we are indebted to everyone who supported us and will be attending the Autumn Show and Game Fair on the 6th and 7th of October, again at Ardingly, so do try to come along and see us there.

Annual Dinner, 15th June 2018

A full house of some 25 or so Syndicate and S&TC UK Sussex Branch members and guests enjoyed a great evening at the Cock Inn, Wivelsfield Green.



Good food, wonderful company, what more could one wish for.

Thanks are due to Mark and Val Orchin for all their hard work in organising the do and also to the crew at the venue for their excellent hospitality.

Connect with the Countryside, Ardingly 12 July 2018

Once again this July, volunteers from the Cinder Hill Syndicate and the Sussex Branch of S&TC UK, were at the Connect with the Countryside event at Ardingly Showground. for children from local and not so local junior schools in the south east of England



It was a very pleasantly warm and sunny day, but unfortunately, this year we only had two instructors available, which meant that we had to change the way we organised things. The children came to our enclosure by the lake in school groups which were divided and then allocated to one of the Instructors. Each session started with a brief demonstration of casting techniques and then as many children as possible were given the opportunity to try their hand at casting. The pace was hectic and the two instructors worked continuously with barely even a moment to pause for a refreshing drink.



Once the school coaches had all departed at around 3 pm, the instructors and volunteers adjourned to the Pavilion where a very welcome and enjoyable buffet lunch was provided for all of the exhibitors by the Show Organisers.



Baskets Wanted

We run a raffle at the various shows we attend which raises a useful amount of cash for our funds, the top prize being a hamper of groceries / goodies. We have now run out of our stock of baskets in which to house the said goodies, so if anyone has a suitable item or two spare, please could they get in touch, or maybe scour the charity shops to see if they have anything available, the ideal size in old money being around 18 inches long by 12 inches wide by 9 inches deep.

Shooting Dates 2018

Members please note that the shooting season on the Cinder Hill Estate will shortly be upon us and due to shooting taking place on site, the fisheries will be closed to members on the following days and times. Should there be any change to these arrangements we will advise members accordingly.

Saturdays 1st and 22nd September, Cinder Hill closed until 1pm, Piplye open as usual.

Monday 8th October, Saturdays 13th, 20th and 27th October, Cinder Hill closed all day. Piplye closed until 12 noon, open thereafter.

Saturdays 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th November, Piplye closed until 12 noon, open thereafter. Note that Cinder Hill will be closed anyway as our season there finishes on 31st October.

Autumn Show & Game Fair, Ardingly, 6th & 7th October 2018

We shall again be attending the autumn show on Saturday and Sunday 6th and 7th October, offering "Have a go casting" and promoting the Cinder Hill Trout Trouting Syndicate and the work of Salmon and Trout Conservation UK. Help is required on the show days and prior to the event in erecting our marquee and setting up the stand. Should members wish to offer their services please contact Rod Yuill, telephone: 01825 732014, email: rodyuill@btinternet.com.

Obituary: Brian Robert Raw. 29th October 1945 - 12th June 2018



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Brian Raw who was finally 'brought to the net' on the 12th June.

Brian was certainly a larger than life character, somewhat Falstaffian in appearance, big and bluff and occasionally opinionated, but the overall impression was of someone who was both genial and generous of his time and expertise to an extent that is rarely found today.

Although he relinquished his membership last year, Brian had been a member of the Cinder Hill Syndicate and S&TC UK Sussex Branch for many years and was one of the very early members of the Syndicate where he involved himself enthusiastically in all aspects of the organization, whether it be arranging work parties to ensure that the lakes were kept in prime condition for our members (and the trout), managing our fishing courses and helping out at the shows.

Brian was an angler of outstanding ability who could always manage to tease a fish out of the most unpromising waters or conditions. Retirement from a distinguished career in teaching allowed him to devote even more time to game fishing whether for trout in the Home Counties, sea trout on the Dovey in Wales or salmon on the Findhorn in Scotland, coaching and guiding, as well as helping out at various local shoots. It was his fishing skills coupled with his background as a teacher that enabled him to organise numerous fishing opportunities for children (many with special needs) under the banner of the Masonic Fishing Charity (MTFSC). The fact that Brian connected with so many people from different walks of life was evident from the packed church at his funeral. His was certainly a life well-lived.

Our thoughts go out to his widow Sheelagh and family for their sad loss

A Boat for Piplye

Several years ago now, Stephen Swan, a long time Syndicate member, spotted a small fibreglass dinghy languishing in a garden near where he lived. On enquiring if it was still required, he managed to acquire it and it was transported to Mike Richardson's garden at Horam where it rested for a while longer awaiting restoration. The boat was in quite a sorry state, with holes in the hull letting in water, the top moulding had separated from the hull and all the wooden fittings were rotten as a pear, however, renovation has now finally been completed, although the little boat would never win any prizes in a concours competition and it awaits transportation to Piplye where we're sure it will prove handy for water maintenance use.



Unfortunately it came without oars, so if anyone has any kicking about, or knows of some going spare, please get in touch.

On Line Auction 2018

For the past couple of years or so we have held an on line auction of various lots donated by members, friends and our sponsors which have generated a welcome addition to our funds. We shall be repeating the exercise again this autumn over the September / October period and to date have over 20 varying lots for which Syndicate, S&TC UK members and anyone else will be invited to bid.

Further details and a full catalogue will be circulated in due course. In the meantime, should members have any items or services (not necessarily connected with fishing) that they would be pleased to donate, we would be more than happy to include them. Please contact Geoff Taylor, telephone: 01444 416121, email: geoff.e.taylor@btinternet.com should you have anything you wish to offer. Thank you.