



## Cinder Hill Newsletter 2023

Dear members,

**News:** This year seems once again to have gone in a flash, no sooner had we started fishing at Piplye in March than the weeks flew by and here we are at the end of the year once more looking forward to the 2024 season! This has been a good season with full membership and not too much trouble with high water temperatures as we experienced over the last 3 years, so fishing continued well through the season at both venues. It was exciting for the lucky members who managed to hook and land our Sparctic trout this year and if you experienced a take and fight from one of these trout it was a notable memory! We are only able to stock the Spartics when the water is cold, so it is likely that these will be a feature of early season fishing at both venues. Our stockist Duncton Mill continue to provide the best quality trout in the region, and we are grateful for the advice and attention Dan Young gives us through the season to provide members with such good fishing.

Over 81% of stocking at Piplye were caught with 77% at Cinder Hill this year – a great result and there were plenty of fish in the lakes at the end of the season to hopefully over-winter.

**Maintenance:** Throughout the year our team of volunteers have assisted at working parties maintaining the banks, trees and removing weed from lakes and we offer a big thank you to those who have been able to take part in 2023 and hope more will come forward in 2024. There will be several new projects in 2024 to improve paths, parking, huts, and access to the pontoon at CH.

The big project for 2024 will be the draining of Piplye top lake, likely during August when visits are low, to remove the silt and create a much deeper lake as we did in 2011. The removal of the carp in Jan'23 created very clear water for us this season and made sight fishing possible. The middle lake drainage and improvement is planned for 2025.

**Events:** We ran the successful Macmillan charity fishing day in May (6<sup>th</sup> year) and around 20 members had a great day fishing and feasting in good weather. A generous donation and money raised on the day has now brought our total raised for this worthy charity to around £5,000 and as usual special thanks must go to Jim Awcock for providing the burgers and sausages, Val and Mandy for their legendary catering skills and to member Laurie Storer for being the sponsor and instigator for the day. A date will soon be set for 2024, so please join us if you can.

In June Cinder Hill once again attended the South of England Show at the Ardingly Showground and held casting sessions for beginners, both adults and juniors to great success. We also attended the autumn fair and would like to thank all those members and committee who helped erect, man the stand, and dismantle our marquee on each occasion. It is all planned again for 2024 so please come and join us if you can.

In November we held our annual lunch at The Green Man in Horsted Keynes, and around 25 enjoyed a good meal and great company, please try and come to this in 2024, it's a great way to close out the season and have an enjoyable social event as well.

**2024 renewal forms:** Enclosed with this newsletter are the 2-part membership forms, please complete these and return as soon as possible to renew your membership for our 2024 season. We hope you will accept a very small increase in fees of just **£5.00** per annum bringing the total up to **£315.00**, this is due to the rising costs of our stock from our supplier and an increase in rent for the venues and is still incredible value-for-money (25 visits!) versus day ticket waters.

**Lease renewal:** In October we are very pleased to advise that we successfully negotiated a new 5-year rental agreement for both Cinder Hill and Piplye which covers the period 2024 - 2028 allowing us to plan improvements such as the draining of the lakes at Piplye and the overall maintenance and access to the fisheries.

**Committee news:** We recently welcomed two new members onto our committee. John Lutkin has now taken over responsibility for the all-important catch return sheets which gives us all the data to plan both stocking and analyse how our lakes are fishing. We would like to formally thank Alan Bearchell for keeping the records so well for us over recent years. Phil Stevens has also joined the committee and will manage the transition of our existing website to a new updated format. We would like to formally thank Mike Richardson for managing the website so well for us for the last few years.

**Here are a few memorable pictures from this season:**



Tree removal Piplye



Macmillan charity day



Opening day Piplye 1<sup>st</sup> March



2 sparcctic for Peter Clare  
+ 1 rainbow 1<sup>st</sup> March



Autumn show 2023



Kevin's 4 ½ lb Brown 15.3.23

Here's wishing everyone a Happy New-Year and a great 2024 season, we look forward to seeing you back on the banks soon.

Best wishes,

**Mark Orchin**

**Cinder Hill Secretary / Organiser**