

The Cinder Hill Trouting Syndicate

In conjunction with

Salmon & Trout Conservation UK Sussex Branch



Web: www.salmon-trout-sussex.org.uk www.cinder-hill-trout.uk

Email: info@salmon-trout-sussex.org.uk sta.sussex@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER January 2017

Dear Syndicate and Branch Members,

Enclosed / attached are the Syndicate and Branch programme for 2017 and the two part form inviting you to join or renew your membership of the Syndicate for the coming season and to volunteer your services by helping at the various events we participate in through the year. Please complete as necessary and forward to Robert Nathan as soon as possible. Cheques for Syndicate membership made out to "Cinder Hill Trouting Syndicate" please.

Coming up very soon, on Friday 10th February, will be the 2nd Syndicate Annual General Meeting. All 2016 members are invited to attend and have their say in the management and running of the fisheries. A month later, on Friday 10th March it will be the turn of the Branch for their AGM and again all STCUK Sussex Branch members are invited. Both are at the Village Hall, Fletching, East Sussex, TN22 3SS, starting at 7:30pm. The minutes of last year's Syndicate meeting and the Agendas for the meetings are attached or enclosed as applicable to your membership of the Branch and/or Syndicate. Please try to come to one or both of these meetings, we would welcome your input.

You will note that under the position of Organizer / Secretary on the two part form, it says "to be advised". Alastair Olver who has occupied this position for some years, both for the Branch and then also the Syndicate, is taking time out and together with his wife Julie and Pip their black labrador, having a year's sabbatical to tour the U.K. in a camper van. We thank you Alastair for your service in the past and trust you will have a memorable year, returning refreshed and eager to again get involved in Branch and Syndicate affairs.

Hopefully the Organizer / Secretary positions will be filled by a keen volunteer (or some other poor soul press ganged into service !) at the forthcoming AGMs, the role is not too arduous and doesn't require that much of your time, so if you feel like having a go at it, please let us know.

All the other officers are prepared to serve for a further term, however, several have now been in the same role for a good many years, they won't be able to go on for ever and would be more than willing to hand over to new blood should suitable candidates be found. All organizations benefit from having an infusion of fresh ideas from time to time otherwise things tend to become stale, so if you feel that you might be willing to stand, either as an officer, or on the committees, please volunteer your services, or if you think someone you know might make a suitable candidate, please ask them and if they agree, nominate them. Nominations can be made by contacting any of the existing committee by e-mail or telephone before the AGMs. This is so important for the continuation of the Branch and Syndicate and all of the existing management teams will be happy to help and support any new member in any way they can.

As usual, last year we participated in the Summer and Autumn shows, the Schools day and iFish, all at the Ardingly Showground and plan to do the same in 2017. Thanks are due to the members and wives who helped in one way or another by manning our pitch, selling draw tickets, coaching at the "have a go" casting, erecting and dismantling the marquee, etc. These shows are one of our main recruitment opportunities for STCUK, the Syndicate and our fly fishing courses and any help is much appreciated. If you could assist this year, please tick the boxes on the two part form and return it to Robert Nathan. In most cases, volunteers are provided with free entry to the shows.

Thanks to Alan Purnell, we will again be running our popular beginners fly fishing courses at Piplye Ponds this year. If you have a partner, friend, relative, acquaintance, what have you, who would like to have a go at fly fishing, then please get in touch with Alan. Most who have been on one of these courses, thoroughly enjoy the experience and take up fly fishing, often also joining the Syndicate. Alan's contact details and the course dates are shown in the Programme.

The annual match against the Sussex Branch of the Fly Dressers Guild is scheduled for Saturday 22nd April, again at Duncton Mill near Petworth. We unfortunately lost again last year, so we really must try and do better in 2017. The match is for teams of 12 from each organization and full details will be circulated in due course, but in the meantime, if you would like to be considered for our team, please contact Mike Richardson.

Our thanks are again due to Tom Todd for looking after our websites (www.salmon-trout-sussex.org.uk and www.cinder-hill-trout.uk). If you have the facilities, please check in every so often for all the latest news and information and please let us have any material for publication that could be of interest, i.e. good catches, photos, specimen fish, successful flies, sales and wants, etc.

Last year we held 14 maintenance work parties on the Syndicate lakes, amounting to exactly 100 man/mornings work from the 21 volunteers who helped out. Some 70% of this effort went into removing the weed from Piplye and Grubbero Pools to make the waters fishable and our thanks are due to all those who helped in one way or another. If we had to pay a contractor for this work it would cost a fortune. If you are willing to help maintain the fisheries in 2017, please contact Clive Newington (contact details on the programme) and we will add you to the register.

Work parties are a good way to meet other members and perhaps learn something which will help improve your fishing in the future. We generally meet at the venue in the morning at about 9 am and spend about 3 or 4 hours working, doing as much or as little as one feels able. You don't have to come to every one, just any that you fancy and the time spent is up to you, even an hour helps. It's generally good fun, albeit a little dirty at times and there's a good deal of "fishing talk" taking place. The more members that turn out the more can be achieved.

The work to install a new floor in the hut at Cinder Hill was unfortunately stalled by the onset of poor weather, but the supporting sleepers are now in place and all should be ready for the start of our season there on the 1st April.

For the past two years, as an additional benefit of membership of the Branch, we have purchased two memberships at the Arlington Reservoir fishery, enabling our members to enjoy a generous £10 discount off the normal day ticket prices. In 2016 this facility was enjoyed by many of our members and we are therefore planning to repeat it again this year.

The 2017 season at Arlington starts on the 28th January and finishes on the 30th June and from the 1st April, boats, with or without electric outboards, will also be available at reduced rates, subject to certain restrictions. Other than purchasing your fishing ticket and paying for boat hire if required at the discounted rates, there is no additional cost to members.

If you would like to take advantage of this scheme, there are certain procedures to follow, so please contact Mike Richardson and we will provide you with all the information you will need in order to participate.

Those who enrolled last year will automatically receive updated vouchers and won't need to re-apply.

Although reasonably well attended, the combined Syndicate and Branch dinner at Maresfield in June last year met with mixed reception, whether it was the location, venue or the food we are not quite sure and we are uncertain whether to hold one in 2017. Do you want a dinner this year and if so would you support it? Do you know of a suitable venue, situated roughly in the centre of Sussex, capable of accommodating say 25 to 30 diners and not too expensive? Even better, would you be prepared to lend a hand in the organization? Please let us know what you think.

We look forward to seeing you at one or another (or both!) of the AGMs.

Tight lines and best wishes for 2017,

Mike Richardson. Email: sta.sussex@gmail.com Telephone: 01435 812854,