



SALMON & TROUT CONSERVATION UK

SUSSEX BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER January 2020

Dear Members,

The time has come around again to review what has happened in the Sussex Branch over the last year, which seems to have followed a similar pattern to 2018 as it has again been fairly uneventful for us following the separation of Cinder Hill Fly Fishing from Branch activities.

Cinder Hill Fly Fishing:

In 2019, the Cinder Hill Trouting Syndicate adopted the working title of Cinder Hill Fly Fishing in order to try and make the organization more attractive to prospective members,

AGM:

Attendance at the 2019 Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 20th February at the Village Hall, Chailey, East Sussex was similar to the previous year and with the separation of the Cinder Hill Fly Fishing activities from the Branch, the meeting was quite short with very little business to discuss. The 2020 AGM will be held at 2:00pm on Saturday 7th March, again at Chailey Village Hall, so please put the date in your diary. I hope you will try to come along. The venue is located just before the Five Bells Pub on the left hand side of the A275 road going north and there is more than adequate parking. An Agenda and Minutes of last year's meeting will be circulated later.

Shows:

Members of the Sussex Branch were at the South of England Show as well as the Autumn Show and Game Fair, both at the Ardingly Showground. We also assisted at the Connect with the Countryside event for schools which was also held at Ardingly in July. As in previous years, we participated at these events in conjunction with Cinder Hill Fly Fishing members. These shows are beneficial for the Branch, with a good number of adults and juniors trying their hand at fly casting and a number of existing anglers showing interest in joining S&TC UK as well as Cinder Hill Fly Fishing and we are expecting to attend all these events again this year.

Annual Match with the Sussex Branch of the Fly Dressers Guild:

It was our turn to host the annual match with the Sussex Branch of the Fly Dressers Guild this year which was once again held at Duncton Mill fishery near Petworth in West Sussex. It is always a good day out, but it seemed especially so this year, with the weather starting misty but steadily improving as the day went on. After the morning's fishing, everyone enjoyed a good lunch before resuming their efforts in the afternoon, when unfortunately the fishing seemed more challenging than earlier.

I'm sorry to say that once again we were the underdogs and the Fly Dressers retained the trophy for a further year. It is now several years since we were last successful and are keeping our fingers crossed that 2020 might be our turn.

This year's match is scheduled for Saturday the 18th April, again at Duncton Mill and we will therefore be seeking volunteers for our team at some time in the new year prior to the event. Duncton is a superb 4 lake venue, so why not volunteer for our team and help to make 2020 a winning year for us.

Further details will be posted in due course, watch out for the announcements via email or our website.

Membership:

Is your membership subscription to S&TCUK Gift Aided? Salmon & Trout Conservation UK is a registered charity and it is estimated that if every member gift aided their subscription this could be worth an additional £40,000 per year to the organisation. It only takes a minute to do it online, just go to the STC UK website (<https://www.salmon-trout.org/support-us/gift-aid>), fill in your details and click "Send". Alternatively, it can be done by post, or you can contact Debbie Creasy in the S&TC Administration Office (Tel: 020 7283 5838, email: debbie@salmon-trout.org). You must, however, be a UK taxpayer.

Courses:

Without a regularly available Level 2 Coach unfortunately we were not able to run our usual programme of Junior and Adult Courses in 2019. However, at the shows last year, a number of individuals expressed an interest in learning to fly fish and following this, we were able to enlist the help of a Level 2 Coach for a “one off” Beginners Course. Sadly the weather had other ideas and on two occasions the course had to be cancelled at the last minute because of high winds and heavy rain making tuition impossible. We hope however to be able to arrange some courses this coming year. Fortunately, courtesy of our insurance provider, we are able to continue with casting demonstrations and tuition at the shows using only Level 1 Coaches and again we are indebted to all of the instructors who turn out to help us.

Arlington Reservoir Fishery Membership:

For several years now, as an additional benefit of S&TC UK Sussex Branch membership, we have purchased two memberships at the Arlington Reservoir fishery. This has enabled members to enjoy a generous £10 discount off the normal day ticket prices.

The reservoir fished exceptionally well in 2019 and we will be repeating the exercise again this year. The 2020 season at Arlington starts on the 25th January and finishes on the 27th June and from the 1st April, boats, with or without electric outboards, are also available at reduced rates.

Other than purchasing your fishing ticket and paying for boat hire if required, at the discounted rates, there is no additional cost to members.

In the past this facility has been regularly used by some members but we would like to see more taking advantage of this arrangement. There are however, certain procedures to follow when fishing, so if you wish to participate in this scheme, please contact Branch Secretary Mike Richardson, telephone: 01435 812854, or email: sta.sussex@gmail.com to enroll.

Websites:

Don't forget to look at the National S&TC UK website (<https://www.salmon-trout.org>) as well as the Sussex Branch website (<https://www.salmon-trout-sussex.org.uk>) to keep up to date with what is happening nationally as well as locally.

Thanks:

Sincere thanks are due to everyone who helped us at our various events again this year, all the volunteers, who give up their precious time and play a really valuable part in keeping the Branch going.

Enclosed / attached are our Programme for 2020 and the two part form inviting members to join or renew their membership of Cinder Hill Fly Fishing for the coming season and to volunteer their services by helping at the various events we participate in throughout the year.

Please complete as necessary and forward to Robert Nathan as soon as possible.

If joining or renewing Cinder Hill Fly Fishing membership, cheques should be made payable to “Cinder Hill Troutng Syndicate”.

Finally, we obviously wish to maintain effective communication with members and because of the costs and time involved, it is not easily possible to do this using the postal system, so, if you have access to internet facilities and are happy for us to contact you via email, please ensure that we have an up to date and correct email address for you.

Let us hope that 2020 will be a good year for the Branch and S&TC UK as a whole.

With best wishes.

Rod Yuill

Chairman, S&TC UK, Sussex Branch.