



# the **SALMON & TROUT** **ASSOCIATION** **SWALE, URE & NIDD** **BRANCH**

## **NEWS LETTER - FEBRUARY 2010**

### ***Branch Events:-***

**Paul Procter evening. Paul will give a talk with slides, on Trout & Grayling Fishing, Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> March.** So far bookings for this event have been disappointingly low and yet Paul is a well known angling celebrity. Guests are welcome so bring along some of your fishing friends. The venue is Leeming Lodge, Leeming Bar, 7.00 for prompt 7.30pm start. The cost is £5 per person. Coffee & biscuits included during interval. Paul writes regularly in the angling press and fishes on northern rivers including the Ure. His presentations have been highly praised by the West Yorkshire branch, who have had him to talk on several occasions. We do need to know numbers attending, so please book places via George Anderson on 01765 688211 or [georgehanderson@talktalk.net](mailto:georgehanderson@talktalk.net)

**Start of Season Luncheon, Sun 28<sup>th</sup> March,** Solberge Hall Hotel. Details and booking form enclosed.

**Junior Training Days, Sat 24<sup>th</sup> April & Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Aug,** Stonebridge Fishing Lakes, Scruton, Northallerton. Lots of volunteer helpers are required as we anticipate that there will be at least 20 youngsters each needing a mentor. If you are able to help please contact Peter Mitchell at [pmitchell4164@btinternet.com](mailto:pmitchell4164@btinternet.com) or on 01845 595074. Stonebridge is a great venue for training young people to fly fish and the courses will be led by two excellent fly fishing coaches, Jeff Metcalf and George Stephenson. If you know any youngsters (aged 10 to 16 yrs) who want to learn to fly fish, please get them to contact Peter Mitchell for info and entry forms. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis, as completed applications are received. An advert will be appearing shortly in two local news papers.

**Introduction to river fly fishing for adults, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June.** The actual venue is yet to be fixed but those interested please contact Peter Mitchell for application forms and further info (his contact details are given above). This day will also be led by qualified coach Jeff Metcalfe plus mentors who will be familiar with fishing at the actual venue. It will be run on similar lines, to the very successful event held on the Nidd last year. This day is aimed at either complete new comers to fishing or those who just need an introduction to river fly fishing. As places are limited to 10, applications should be made as soon as possible.

**National Final of Junior Trout Masters Championship, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> July,** at Stonebridge Trout Lakes, Scruton. Following the successful event last year, we have been asked to provide stewards again this year, plus an S&TA tent, with displays and fly tying demonstrations. Cleveland and York branches will be helping but we will need lots of members to volunteer to act as stewards. Last year helpers enjoyed being involved and were amazed at the ability of some of the young contestants who took part. If you are able to help on either day, please contact John Burton on 01677 426780 or at [jmburton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jmburton@tiscali.co.uk)

**Yorkshire Grayling Day, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October** at Wensley. Details with September Newsletter.

***Notification by e-mail in future:-*** It now costs about £75 to print and post out letters to our branch membership and we do that three times per year!! It is therefore our intention to send

the next news letter by e-mail, to those who have supplied their current e-mail address. This will save considerable cost and so conserve branch funds. If you have yet to give us your address or it needs to be updated, please do contact our branch secretary George Anderson at [georgehanderson@talktalk.net](mailto:georgehanderson@talktalk.net)

***Environment Agency "Trout and Grayling Policy":-*** Our Branch Committee have decided to seek a meeting with an EA representative about this policy which starts to take effect this year. By 2015 stocking on most rivers with fertile trout from normal hatcheries will be banned and only Triploid fish will be licensed for river stocking. There has been little consultation about this restriction and we are concerned that it could have serious repercussions for fisheries on local rivers. We suggest that S&TA members should get their angling clubs and the riparian owners to give the matter urgent consideration and take up their concerns with the EA.

***"Save our Wild Scottish Salmon" - Petition to Scottish Government:-*** This petition is to be sent to the Scottish Government next month and so if you have not yet signed, then it would help the cause if you were to add your name via the Association's web site. The web address is [www.salmon-trout.org](http://www.salmon-trout.org) on the home page click on "Our Work" then "Campaigns" and this will open the petition for you to enter your name. Please do this promptly as it will soon be too late!!

***Other items of interest on the S&TA web site:-*** There is an outline summary of the findings of a National Angling Survey which revealed that the main reason millions of anglers go fishing in the UK is not to net a record fish but to escape crowds, de-stress and experience nature. Other findings were also interesting. The survey is part of a major 3 year research programme, funded by the Big Lottery Fund. The survey results may well influence future decisions about funding support for angling groups. This item is again accessed from the web site home page, click on "News", "Current News" then click "Survey".

Also on the home page you can subscribe to receiving copies of occasional e-mail newsletters from head office, detailing their work and other S&TA information.

Finally I suggest that you click on "Our Blog" which contains 5 very interesting and revealing items written by Paul Knight the Association's Chief Executive.

***Branch Officers and Committee, elected at our AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010:-***

*President: Sir Charles Huxtable, 01969 623943 [crhuxtable@talktalk.net](mailto:crhuxtable@talktalk.net)*

*Chairman: John Burton, 01677 426780 [johnmburton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:johnmburton@tiscali.co.uk)*

*Vice-Chairman & Training Officer: Peter Mitchell, 01845 595074 [pmitchell4164@btinternet.com](mailto:pmitchell4164@btinternet.com)*

*Secretary: George Anderson, 01765 688211 [georgehanderson@talktalk.net](mailto:georgehanderson@talktalk.net)*

*Treasurer: Mick Burt, 01969 622142 [m.burty@btinternet.com](mailto:m.burty@btinternet.com)*

*Membership Secretary: Ashley Mason, 01748 832736 [ashbison@supanet.com](mailto:ashbison@supanet.com)*

*Press Officer: Peter Wrigley, 01423 879442 [peter@wrigley.net](mailto:peter@wrigley.net)*

*Water Resources Officer: Nick Buck, 01677 424294 [nickbuck@lccweb.co.uk](mailto:nickbuck@lccweb.co.uk)*

*Fly Life Survey Co-ordinator: Gareth Jones, 01765 689124 [JONES.GARETH@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:JONES.GARETH@tinyworld.co.uk)*

***Committee Members:***

*Ken Bright 01765 658091*

*John Carrick 01677 470261*

*Alan Hyde 01765 689023*

*Hugh Le-Messurier 01969 624779*

*Stan Pennington 01609 771541*