

R&DAA

INFORMATION SHEET

DECEMBER 2021

GENERAL SECRETARYS REPORT

PERMIT SALES AND FUTURE

Permit sales have slowed down now that winter is upon us.

We will be making an announcement in January as to whether we carry on for one more season with paper permits but it is looking more likely that we make the move to electronic ones next season.

All existing permit holders who have supplied email addresses will be contacted to advise them what to do.

AGM

We will be holding the meeting in the Zoom format at 7.30pm on Monday 6th March 2022. If you wish to join this meeting please let me know at info@rdfaa.co.uk at least a month prior to this date. Numbers may be limited.

This is also a Rule Change year and if you want to propose a change then I will need to know by the end of December 2021, the rule changes only apply to the RDAA General Rules as shown on the website. All other rules can be changed by the EC at any time.

Please send any other questions regarding RDAA to info@rdfaa.co.uk before the end of December 2021 so that we have time to either resolve any issues prior to the meeting or to discuss on the night.

FISHERIES OFFICER REPORT

The big story this month has been the breach at the downstream end of our Calcot stretch of the Kennet.

The breach appeared over a Friday night and then subsequently drained the whole reach up to the fixed crest weir along the Arrowhead rd in Theale. Unfortunately, this had the effect of reducing the 'head' so's the water that should flow into the Holybrook didn't, which resulted in only a very small amount entering the brook.

The ownership of the bank where the breach occurred is in question and as such both the EA and CRT were pointing their fingers at each other as to who was responsible for the repair. We felt we had to step in and apply pressure to both CRT and the EA for a quick resolution. Our pressure paid off with CRT stepping up and committing to repair the breach without prejudice. Within hours of RDAA applying pressure, pumps were installed to transfer water from the main river into the brook and a plan was formed to fix the breach.

We're now 4 weeks into the repair and I'm glad to say the fix will be completed imminently.

While being a big critic of CRT in the past, I'd like to put on record that they have acted superbly in this incidence, for which RDAA and other organisations connected with the Brook should be grateful.

In between times, Jamie and I have been spending some time at Whistley Mill and Englefield Lagoon clearing pathways with the help of a machine and flail attachment. This will allow us to next year maintain these pathways a lot easier going forward.

The Friday club is now up and running for the winter, with work to maintain Wilmotts, Callows, Brown-lee and Cottage lane being at the forefront of our attentions. Anyone is welcome, we meet at the Flint hut at 10am for a (free) bacon roll and cuppa. We work until 2pm. It's a pretty relaxed affair and a good way to meet likeminded people, while putting a little back into RDAA.

RDAA would like to wish all of it's members a Happy Christmas and look forward to a better new year.