

# Fish Tales

## News and reports from Broad Oak Trout Lakes

**News** We have extended our estate, albeit modestly! We have been lucky enough to buy the small wet, rushy field (or bog!) you can see across the brook. Chris will be building a bridge across to it some time, and we hope to plant trees on it. Beyond that we have no plans, it was just an opportunity that came up!

**Water** The water is clearing at last. It has been a long wait. The sediment issue seemed suddenly to settle, and now we have the usual spring murk which will clear in the next couple of weeks now that the straw 'rafts' have gone in. The straw in the tubes, which are suspended off the lake bed, gradually decomposes and releases chemicals that inhibit algal growth. It also provides great spawning sites for the sticklebacks, so expect clouds of those in the summer!

The toads have been 'cavorting in the shallows' again! Try not to disturb the strings of spawn (toads make strings, frogs make clumps), when casting or landing fish. The tadpoles will be about soon enough, so the tadpole imitators should be making an appearance in your fly box!

The swans are nesting on the island. This means that Mr Swan gets a bit moody, especially if Madge is about. The best way to handle this is NOT to look directly at either of the swans. If you act as if they are not there they just carry on doing their thing and you can do yours.



**Shop** We are running the shop down to just the basics of flies, fly boxes, tippet, snips etc. with some lines and budget rods/reels. We are clearing the sale stock at trade prices, so if there is something that you want,

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get it quick or it will be gone on eBay or a car boot sale!

**Advanced warning:** On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May we will be closing early – anglers off by 6pm – as we have a private party going on that evening. We will be open on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>, but there may be tents littered on the Fishing Lodge side of the site! Lakes side will be kept clear and pristine, of course!

### Fly of the month – March

Top fly for March was 'Damsel'. Most were black (those taddies come early?) and all weighted. The blood worm or a pink or red buzzer have also been successful. Gold Ribbed Hares Ear has caught a few, and the Buzzer is making its mark in the record sheet – let us hope that it makes a come-back. Buzzer fishing is top fishing!

### Recent Catches

Paul Spofforth and Bob Silvester tie on top spot for heaviest individually recorded rainbow. Both had 2¾lbbers on a black gold-head and olive sparkler respectively. There were some good bag weights too, so I am sure that there were some 3lbbers out too. The occasional brownie has been hooked, although less often than they have been.

**Weather Forecast** (taken from Met Office website) After a slightly unsettled, but not at all bad week this week, we are due for a spell of settled weather the following. Mid-month looks to return to some April showers and blusters, followed by a move towards a warmer more settled end of the month. Very nice too! Just the ticket for some early hatches! Bring on the dries!

### 2017 Events

**Early Bird Sessions:** We will be running some more of the 6am starts in **July (16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>) and August (13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>)**. Booking essential. Standard ticket prices apply, but include a brew and a bacon roll at 10 for the early starters.

**Summer Members Event – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017:** social and late fishing (hopefully on a balmy night). Full details will be out in due course!

See you soon. Tight Lines

*Chris and Charlotte*

*A home-made publication*