

# Fish Tales

## News and reports from Broad Oak Trout Lakes

**News** Chris has built a bridge over to the new field. You are welcome to have a wander and a look, it is just the long thin piece next to the brook. We have no plans for it at all, other than to plant some trees in the autumn/winter.

**Water** Clarity has returned! To the water at least. Yes, we can now see the lake bottom in the margins, it seems that the trusty straw 'rafts' have worked their magic again. They are filled with barley straw, which releases a chemical that inhibits algal growth in the water as it decomposes. Wheat straw does not have the same effect, it seems. It takes about 5 – 6 weeks to work once they have gone in.

Don't forget to respect Mr Swan and his mood swings. Don't look at him, or Mrs Swan, directly and they should ignore you too!

**Shop** We still have plenty of stock to clear. Clothing, footwear, waders and bags are significantly reduced, some rods are reduced also. We will keep stocking the usual little bits like tippet, fluro, flies etc.

**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! We may be a tad jaded. Be kind.

**Fly of the month – APRIL** Top fly for April was the Damsel yet again, mainly black or olive with a few orange ones. This fits with the rise in favour of the bloodworm, which have been a popular trout snack. Montana came second to the damsel, with buzzers and PTNs (pheasant tail nymphs) not far behind. It is good to see some traditional flies on the return sheets, too, such as Zulu and Black Pennel.

Looking ahead to May I have hopes that the early spring start might encourage the may-fly hatch to happen in May! Last year was a cold start and they only appeared right at the end and into June. Flies to try for May are Buzzers, Daiwl Bachs and Hawthorne flies. Watch for the hawthorn blossom and try a Bristol hopper on a mild still day when it is in full bloom. Great sport.

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May 2017

**First Catch**  
Well done to Gracie Windows, who caught her first trout ever in April. Here shown with her catch, and her Dad's. Guess who's was the biggest!!



**Biggest Catch for April** goes to Richard Smith with a 3lb 4oz rainbow dazler caught on a bloodworm. 'It beats lambing!' he said! Next on the board was Paul Spofforth with 3lb 2oz and a 3lb both on a black damsel. Our own Doug Rushton also makes the top catch with his 3lb 1½ oz rainbow tempted by a damsel – home tied Doug? Probably.

**Weather Forecast** (taken from Met Office website)  
We have a good outlook for May, warming up over the next week from the late April arctic blast, with some sunny and blustery spells. This continues over the first half of the month keeping dryer than is good for us. The latter part of May continues dry and warm, warming up as it progresses.  
As I expected – Oak before Ash, we are in for a splash. Some of you may recall that last year the Ash leaves were out before the Oak, and we did have a soak!!

### 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, or is that barmy, night). Full details will be out in due course!

See you soon. Tight Lines

*Chris and Charlotte*

*A home-made publication*