

"Many men go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after."
- Henry David Thoreau

Hello All, welcome to May or 'the month of bank holidays' - which means, of course, more time to fish! It was crazy here on May Day. Can I just ask for a heads up (email/answer phone/facebook) if you are coming as I can stock appropriately and plan ahead. It will give me time to notify lan who sources and delivers the trout, bearing in mind he delivers all over the country. If I order too many, you catch too quick, if I haven't ordered enough you may struggle. So, you can see the importance of a quick text or notification.

#### **Events**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May. This is our beginners fishing/ picnic day (weather permitting). Bring down family and friends, and enjoy the lakes. There will be people on hand to improve your casting or just swap friendly tips. There is no specific time.

On that note, if anyone has old hula hoops they don't want, I can use them as casting practice. Also, any raffle prizes, as always, are welcome as I'm going to try to create hamper prizes.

## **Competition Results**

Angling – last Saturdays competition was good. Will Tolley and Luke Roberts came 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Thank fully the weather was dry!

Fly Tying Competition – The results are in, with a big thank you to Mark from Worcester Fly Dressers for judging the results for us. There were 3 categories and the winners are as follows.

Lure: Keith Dobbins for his Blue Flash Damsel

Dry: Phillip Bray for his foam beetle

Wet: Ross Keightley for his Cormorant with red flash.

Overall winner: Phillip Bray for consistency.

And a big thank you to Ross, who made me the most stunning pair of lure earrings - yipeee!!!

Please pop in the office for your prizes (just not too quick as they aren't ready.



### Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has donated raffle prizes -) some more surprising than others eh Jim?), easter eggs, and their time. A big thank you to Roy and Irene Fisher who have been amazing helping with maintaining the grounds and helping in the B and B. It's been a massive help. Thank you to all those that step in and help new fly anglers when they come and need support. Things like this make us such a supportive and welcoming fishery where everyone shares the same ethos.

# **Secret Poet**

We also have a secret poet amongst us, that has been inspired and created the following poem for you to enjoy:

## The Fisherman

A fly fisherman stands on the bank, His rod at the ready, his heart in his hand, As he casts his line in graceful play, And dips in gently across the pond.

The Swans and ducks gather round, Watching intently his every move, Their eyes fixed on the tiny fly, As it dances across the water's groove.

The Fisherman's eyes are steady, His focus on the task at hand, And as he watches for the slightest twitch, He feels a tug beneath his hand.

With swift and practiced motion, He pulls the line with strength and grace, And from the water leaps a beauty, The prize of his fishing place.

The swans and ducks begin to chatter, Impressed by what they've just beheld, The skill and patience of the fisherman, Is a sight they'll long remember well.

And so the fisherman stands proud, At Bransford Fisheries by the pond, With swans and ducks as his audience, As he reels in another catch to bond.

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