

Welcome to the first Newsletter from Burton Springs Fishery since we took over from Tony and Edna Evans in February this year. We, being Adam, Dave and Sue Hilling, would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your warm welcome, your support and your custom. For those of you who are new to the fishery, we extend a double welcome and thanks for your new custom; we hope you like our fishery and visit us often.

This is our opportunity to update you on a few things that have been happening (although many of you do follow us on our website and Twitter), about some of the great catches from both Fly and Coarse lakes and our hopes for the fishery. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and, as usual, your feedback is valuable to us.

## News from the Fly Lake

It hasn't been the easiest summer on the Fly Lake. Prolonged hot weather combined with a lack of rain meant that not only did the water level get low but also encouraged weed growth. There was nothing for it but for us to take to the water with a chain scythe to cut and clear weed on an almost daily basis. This process plus careful fish management enabled us to keep the lake open all summer and even to continue to offer a catch and release facility.

With the cooler temperatures we have been able to restock the lake with a higher density of weightier trout and the fishing is even better. We continue to restock carefully and on a regular basis and can now boast some excellent catches. Our visitors have been catching Rainbows up to 12lb, Blues to 9lb, Browns to 10lb and Tigers to 6lb. Not to mention the odd grass, mirror and common carp! Well done to John and Pete who were very recently thrilled to catch beautiful Tigers at 6 and 5 pounds respectively. Well done also to Mark (Jock) who managed to land this 9lb+ beauty! And to Sam, who landed this small Mirror.



Although we could do with more rain to bring the water level back up to where it should be, the lake is fishing really well and offers relaxing and enjoyable fishing, a beautiful location and a warm, friendly welcome. Several of our regulars are also enjoying the comforts of a freshly cooked bacon sandwich with a cuppa in our lodge or on the bank! It's been a real pleasure to welcome angling students and novices to the lake and we will continue to offer support when novices take to the lake on their own. We are very grateful for any photos which are sent to us and we do our best to get them on our website so, although many trout anglers don't "do the trophy thing" it is great to get your pics on our website and photo board.

## News from the Coarse Lake

It's been a great summer down at the coarse lake; one of the most evident changes we have made is to reduce the number of swims on the lake and to carefully manage bookings in order to avoid overcrowding and overfishing. This has clearly paid off, as the lake has fished well and we appear to have attracted anglers who had not fished here for some time. Catches have included Commons to 25lb, Mirrors to 27lb, Leathers to 25lb, Perch to 3.7lb, Tench to 7.4lb, and Eels to 3.6lb. Not to mention Mark's 18lb 1oz Grass carp (below left) shortly followed by Martin's 20lb 2oz Grassie (below right).



This summer the best catch weight in one 24 hour session was 212 pounds which is excellent and Jack can take the credit for that. Well done! This is Jack with one of his conquests.



We were really pleased to welcome Wesley and the lads from The Royal Oak in Taunton who booked the lake exclusively for their match. We hope they all enjoyed the 24 hours and that this becomes a regular event for them.



In July we were contacted by Brian Gay from the Anglers Mail who wanted to come and fish. Brian had a great day and witnessed some lovely fish being landed. He was very impressed with the quality of our fish and did us proud with his double page article in the Anglers Mail. Thanks very much Brian!