



MILLER'S TALES

Bintry Mill Trout Fishery -- September 2017

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED WITH A HOG ROAST



'It was good to meet some of the people who I have never met before when attempting to entice one of those lovely trout out of this beautiful stretch of the Wensum. It was also good to catch up with some members that I do know and Paul [Seaman] who kindly shares this little bit of paradise with us.'

After lunch BMTF Chairman Hugh Berridge thanked everyone for coming along; Paul Seaman for allowing us to use the site; the Committee for all their

Above: Some of those members and friends who enjoyed the celebratory hog roast at Bintry Mill. **Right:** The hog before it was carved and eaten. **Below:** The weather was fine enough for some to sit on the grass in front of Bintry Mill.



hard work in running the club and Dave Pitchers in particular for organising the event. He then said that he was not going to give a history of the club but if one member were to be given thanks for all his hard work over the years and for spearheading the river improvements particularly at Yarrow Farm, that member would be Terry Lawton.

He went on to mention the decline in the number of fishers and the zero waiting list. He hoped nonetheless that people would continue to struggle into sweaty waders, put on multi-pocketed waistcoats festooned with accoutrements, often unflattering headgear and stride off hopefully to the river.



To page 2

CATCH RETURNS FOR APRIL TO AUGUST

MONTH	BINTRY MILL	YARROW FARM	COUNTY SCHOOL	GOFF'S	ALL BEATS
April	15	0	0	0	15
May	23	31	0	3	57
June	21	22	0	0	43
July	34	15	0	0	49
August	54	10	0	0	64
Beat total	147	78	0	0	228

ADVICE AND HELP FOR THOSE STRUGGLING TO CATCH A FISH - OR TWO

Fishing the Wensum and catching its trout is a challenging but ultimately rewarding experience. It is not always easy to find and see fish and they are not the most free rising. If you expect to be able to see and stalk fish or cast to rising fish every time that you are on the river, your expectations are unlikely to be met on many occasions.

Hatches, with the exception of days in May and June when there can be good hatches of Mayfly, caddis in spring and summer and iron blues in late September or October, tend to be quite sparse and often of very short duration. Although hatches tend to be 'simple' rather than 'complex' - when two or perhaps three different flies are hatching - fish can be surprisingly picky at times. This could be because they are feeding on hatching nymphs, caddis pupae swimming to the surface or Mayflies that are struggling to hatch, rather than ones which have hatched successfully and can be seen floating on the surface.

The most important thing is to use flies in which you have confidence. Trout are opportunist feeders and if you can present a fly to a fish when and where it is expecting to see a food item, then you may catch it if it is a feeding fish. Exact imitation is not always required.

Any member who would like some practical help should contact our secretary Dave Pitchers who will then arrange for an experienced member to join you for a day or half day on the river.

From page 1

He questioned why we did this and concluded that maybe we were seduced by the tackle we bought to deceive the trout, thinking that every new item would improve our prospects. Unfortunately we did not learn from experience in this regard.

Finally he concluded that we did it because angling distracts us from the troubles of the world and our everyday cares and is like a form of meditation: a purifier of the mind. Whether or not we catch a fish we return home more contented and at peace with the world. As Izaak Walton wrote in 1676 angling once got and practised 'will prove to be, like virtue, a reward to itself.'

Page 2

2017 AGM A Reminder

This year's AGM will be held on Sunday 19 November starting at 1100. As in previous years it will be held, by kind invitation of Richard Fannon, at The Stower Grange Hotel in Drayton.

The agenda for the meeting will be circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes of the 2016 meeting have been circulated to members.

The hotel has a very good restaurant for those who want to eat after the meeting. As in previous years sandwiches will be available in the bar for anyone wanting a drink and a snack before leaving.

HOW TO SIGN-IN - AND OUT

A plain man's guide

Members sign-in at the start of a day on the river and then sign-out at the end before going home. The signing-in/catch record card is in two parts. The first part - outlined in red below - is completed by the member on arrival and BEFORE going fishing. Part two - outlined in turquoise - is completed at the end of the day and BEFORE leaving the river. Signing-in at the start of the day lets other members who arrive after you know which beat you are fishing and when you started. Completing a catch return at the end of the day lets the committee know who is catching fish, when and where and how many.

It is not only new members who are having trouble signing-in but well-established ones too who should know better.

The reason members are asked to record when they **finish** fishing is so that we know how long they have fished and if a member leaves one of the lower beats at, for example 1600 hours, if that time is not recorded someone arriving to fish during the late afternoon or evening will assume that the beat or beats is/are still being fished. By recording your finish time a late arrival will know that the beat is not being fished.

If you intend to fish more than one beat please complete a separate card for each beat. If you put two beats on one card it is very difficult, if not impossible, to know what fish were caught where. If you bring a guest it is quite acceptable to sign-in with your name, on one card, "+ guest". If you park by the signing-in box and intend to walk down to the Yarrow Farm Beat and then fish the Bintry Mill Beat on the way back, put your starting time on the card for Yarrow Farm and your name on another card for the Bintry Mill Beat. When you return to the signing-in box, put your finish time on the Yarrow Farm card and both start and finish times on the Bintry Mill Beat card.

PART ONE

1 ↑

Date: Beat:
Name: Car registration:
Start time: FINISH TIME:

2 ↓

Fish Caught

Length (Wild fish only)	Stock - Tag colour/Wild	Kept/Returned	Fly (Optional)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

PART TWO

Comments