## **BMTF News**

# **April 2016**

#### **FISH TAGS**

We will be tagging the stock fish once again this season. For new members and those of you who did not catch a stock fish last season, the fish were tagged with red tags. This season the fish will be tagged with clear tags. Be aware that last year's tags may well be covered in algae.



So that we can get some idea of the number of stock fish that over-wintered successfully, as well as the number of this season's that are caught, please record, on the catch return cards, the colour of the tag of any stock fish that you catch. The cards have been modified to include space for this information.

Please remember that only tagged fish may be killed. All other trout must be returned.

#### **MEASURING FISH**

In the past we have asked for estimated weights of the wild fish that are caught. We now feel that it will be much more helpful to working out the age range of wild fish in the river if you measure the length of each fish. As well as carrying a tape measure it is relatively easy to measure the length of a fish by tying a piece of elastic shock cord around the bottom section of your rod or landing net handle. When you catch a fish all you need to do is to hold one end against a fixed point and use the shock cord to



mark the other end. When you have returned the fish to the river, you can use your tape measure to record the length of the fish. Again the catch return cards have been



modified so that you can record this information at the end of the day.

### **FLY BOARDS**

We will be installing a number of fly boards on both the Bintry Mill and Yarrow Farm beats. Please do not disturb them. However, if you see one or more that have got a lot of weed hung-up on them, please remove with care so that any eggs that have been laid on the underside of the board are not damaged or removed.

The idea of a flyboard is to provide a suitable site for upwing flies to lay their eggs. The more egg-laying sites there are, the more eggs that will be laid and, in due course, we hope that there will be a commensurate increase in the number of nymphs and then flies. The boards will also provide over-head cover for fish.