## **BROOM LAKE**

Well away from any main road, this beautiful 6 acre gravel pit offers that feeling of total seclusion thanks to its tree-lined banks and five islands. SDAA have controlled the fishing rights since 1987 and it is managed as a mixed fishery. The lake has a fairly even depth of 7-9 feet (see below for depth map) and is weed free, which suits a wide variety of methods. All this makes Broom Lake a real pleasure to fish whatever you want from your days out. With just over 40 pegs spread over 6 acres the lake is rarely crowded.

The lake contains a good head of carp, tench and bream. The majority of the original carp are scale perfect commons with a smaller number of mirrors and the odd ghost carp. Many of these carp are now over 20lb, with the biggest just under the 30lb mark. These were supplemented with 75 stunning looking mirror carp to 10lb from AJS Fisheries (2009 and 2011). The bream and tench both go into double figures to provide further interest for the specimen angler, and the occasional large crucian carp turn up in catches. There are plentiful shoals of silver fish (roach, rudd, perch and small bream) for those who like to float fish with rod and line or on the pole. The plentiful supply of silver fish ensures there are also good numbers of pike to mid doubles. Roach (2013), tench and bream (2014) in the 6oz-1lb range were introduced to maintain Broom as a mixed fishery. We have a licence to control cormorant numbers, which has helped to ensure the success of natural recruitment for most species.

The lake has secure gated access to a large car park. When ground conditions allow, anglers are allowed to drive (cars and small vans only) around the lake and park directly behind their pegs. The track is closed when the ground becomes too waterlogged to avoid damaging the track.

All the swims were rebuilt by contractors in September 2019 using a vertical Nicospan membrane held in place by scaffold poles to retain the bank. The Nicospan is topped with a 3m wide oak board and most are large enough for a bivvie.

A lot of effort has been put into reducing the levels of silt caused by years of accumulated leaf drop. Trees, both around the lake and on the islands, are regularly cut back (or removed) to reduce the annual leaf drop and reduce the number of snags. Siltex (a very fine chalk) is regularly applied to break down the silt and release the nutrients. An EA survey in November 2011 confirmed a healthy stock of roach with fish to 1lb. Scales from a representative sample of the roach were analysed and revealed a significant improvement in growth rates since the Siltex application had been initiated.



Sandie Cornell 24lb common

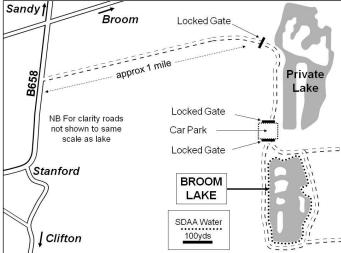


Craig Brooks 25lb+ ghostie



Liam Prout 10lb 7oz bream





Broom Lake in January

#### Location

Broom Lake is located close to the River Ivel to the east of the B658 (Shefford to Sandy road).
 Going north from Stanford along the B658 take the first road on the right, signed Broom Quarry.
 Drive for approximately 1 mile to the SDAA car park, complying with all signs and speed limits.
 [Track Grid Ref. TL16444196, Sat Nav SG18 9LB (Broom crossroads)]

### **Species Present**

• Carp, tench, bream, pike, roach, rudd, perch and crucian carp.



Alan Lawrence 9lb 6oz tench



Chris Perry 15lb 4oz pike

#### **Fishery Rules**

These rules apply to Broom Lake, in addition to the full set of Club rules:

- Night Permit required for night fishing (Junior Night Permit holders must be accompanied by a night permit holder over the age of 18 and occupy the same swim whilst night fishing).
- Fishing from marked swims only. Please take note of the signs in pegs 32 & 33 that govern fishing from these two pegs.
- Members fishing pegs 26-42 on the western ('farmer's field') bank are permitted to cast into the gaps between the nearby islands, but must not cast beyond the furthest edge of the islands (NB Rule 12 also applies).
- The track around the lake is only designed to be used by cars and small vans, and will only remain open as long as conditions permit. Vehicles must be driven around the track with great care at all times (5mph speed limit). The track is unsuitable for long wheelbase and/or heavy vehicles, which cause major damage to the track. Any vehicle over 2m in height must be parked in the main car park and not driven around the track, unless the owner has prior written permission from the committee. The track should only be used after dark if absolutely necessary, showing courtesy and consideration to fellow anglers night fishing. Members ignoring rules on use of the track can expect a ban.
- The use of leadcore is not permitted.

## **Recent Stockings**

November 2009 AJS Fisheries C3 'scaley' carp 19 mirrors

Average: 8lb (range: 6-10lb)



8lb mirror (2009)

October 2011
AJS Fisheries C3 'scaley' carp
55 mirrors plus one common

Average: 5.5lb (range: 4-7lb)



6lb 12oz mirror (2011)

March 2013 Southern Fisheries Services 600 roach

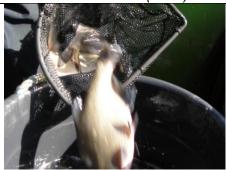
Size: 8-10 inches



8-10 inch roach (2013)

March 2014 Mainstream Fisheries 200 bream

Size: 6oz-1lb



6oz-1lb bream (2014)

December 2014 Meadow View Fisheries 500 tench & bream

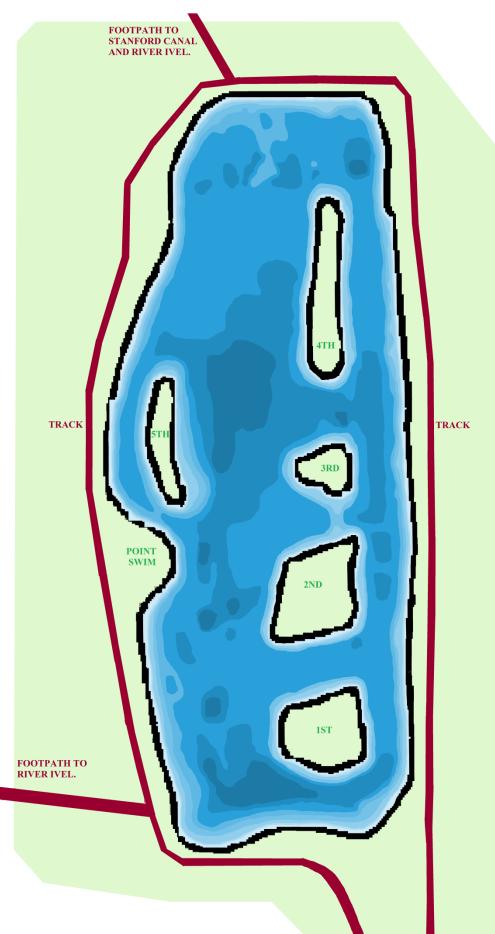
Size: 6oz-1lb



6oz-1lb tench and bream (2014)

# **BROOM LAKE DEPTH MAP**

BROOM DEPTH MAP: THE LAKE WATER LEVEL WAS NORMAL AT THE TIME THE SURVEY WAS CARRIED OUT.



1
FOOT

2
FEET

3
FEET

4
FEET

5
FEET

6
FEET

9 FEET