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**84^{LB} LADIES
WORLD RECORD**



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LADIES WORLD RECORD

As reported in last week's issue, Jo Green set a new ladies world record when she banked The Brown Fish at 84lb (right) during a week on the Graviers, France.

Jo tells the tale. "After a very wet drive down, we arrived just after 1pm. The weather broke for a while and the sun came out, so we set and had a cuppa with Luke Moffatt, chatting about what fish had been out recently. The Brown Fish was the first mentioned; it came out two weeks ago so, laughing, we all ruled out catching that one. None of the other biggies (The Bulldog, The Inflatable or Scar) had been out. After an hour or so Mike Whitford and I went on our way to set up on the Point. As we started unloading the van the heavens opened, so that was abandoned and we sat in the hut making up rigs while it passed. It took a good two hours but eventually the sun shone again. We set about getting all the rods out and by dark we were all set up and ready to go.

"The first run came at seven o'clock the next morning and Mike landed a pretty 22lb 6oz mirror. A further two fish graced the bank that morning at 30¼lb and 38lb, so three on the first day – nice result! Later in the evening we got the rods redone with fresh bait and sat back wondering if any more fish might come our way. Little did we know what was about to happen...

"At 4am on Monday I had an absolute screamer. I flew out of the bivvy and hit into what felt like a lump. After a mammoth battle against the fish she went over the cord 40 minutes later. We both looked into the net and it soon became apparent it was one of the biggies. I rang one of the other lads (another Mike) fishing down the other end to come up and have a look. Not even thinking it might be

Jo with The Brown Fish at a new ladies world record 84lb



84 POUNDER FOR JO

The Brown Fish as it had been out recently, we decided it might be The Inflatable. I rang Luke to let him know we had one of the biggies in the net (Luke comes round with his scales to weigh all fish over 60lb). As soon as Luke arrived he looked into the net and identified The Brown Fish. I couldn't believe it... We got on with the weighing, and at a colossal 84lb it was a mere 6lb lighter than me. Words cannot describe how I felt at that point. It took days to sink in and it was three days before I even touched a rod

again. Mike banked three forties to 48lb 3oz and a 62lb 3oz mirror while I was coming to terms with what had happened.

"The weather started to deteriorate again, heavy rain and galeforce winds, but it did not stop the fish. They just kept coming and we were up to 15 by 11pm Wednesday. Thursday produced a 40¼lb and 32lb 7oz for me, and Mike had his second sixty at 62lb and a 22lb mirror. Then at 8am Friday morning I had single bleep and the line went tight. Hitting into



Jo's 61½lb mirror



Mike with the bigger of his two sixties at 62lb 3oz

it I thought, 'This is quite a lump! Half an hour later she slipped over the cord and weighed in at 61½lb. On the first morning I finished with a 31lb mirror, taking us to 22 fish, and they all came on Bailcraft T1. To sum it up it was an unbelievable week's fishing that will stay with me forever."

Best ever catch

A five-day session on Lac Chateau Gagnac, France, saw David Buxton from Norwich endure "awful winds and rain" to take his "best ever catch" with nine carp topped by this personal best and lake record 80¼lb mirror (left).

Proline Gagnac Special readymades proved successful for the 31-year-old director, whose catch also included three thirties to 37lb, four forties to 46lb and a 52lb personal best common. He offered snowman hookbaits on size 5 Nash Fang Twister hooks, six-inch 25lb Armourbraid hooklinks and 3½oz Korda pear leads on ESP Leadcore leaders. These were fished at 120 yards range over a large bed of free offerings and particles in a gap between lily beds.

Nash 12ft 3lb Outlaw rods, Shimano LC Bailrunner reels and 15lb Soft Steel line completed David's successful outfit.



80¼lb lake record mirror

Late news...

We've heard that Single Scale has been out of Somerset's Ashmead syndicate at a whopping 58lb.

Over at Bundy's Pit in Cambridgeshire, Nobby banked a 44½lb common. Ben Clarke caught a 43lb mirror from a private venue. Garry Reynolds set a new Chillingham Mill record with Chilly's Fish at 48lb, pictures in next week's Carp-Talk, and Barry Bates had a 41lb 3oz common from the same lake.