

The Kingswood Legionnaires' Newsletter

Here We Go Again As Another New River Season Beckons

It's great to get back on the rivers after 3 months of static fishing but as I look around I can't help but notice that everyone in the club, myself included, is getting on in years. This has prompted me to think about Health & Safety, especially when fishing on rivers. Many of us take Health & Safety for granted so here are a few guidelines, which might help to keep the subject in the forefront of your minds. When you're fishing a match and someone comes floating by faced down in the river, don't assume they are looking for a bit of lost fishing tackle. They could actually be drowning. And if someone comes floating by and appears to be waving to you, don't just wave back, as they too could be drowning. When someone falls over clutching their chest, don't assume they have been suddenly struck down by love or a bout of indigestion. They could be having a heart attack. If someone begins to look at you in a strange way, don't assume they are making funny faces at you. They could be having a stroke. If someone emerges from the undergrowth, clutching a copy of the Angling Times, panting for breath, is red in the face and their eyes are rolling around in their head. Don't assume they have been up to something very naughty. They could be having a seizure. If someone starts talking gibberish after a bad match, don't assume they have been on the wacky baccy. They could be having a mental breakdown. If someone falls flat on their face and does not move. Don't assume they are taking a quick nap or that they might be looking for worms. Instead, shout out, "Man down! Man down!" to alert everyone else, and then shout out, "Medic!" Let's be clear on Health & Safety. Keep a close eye on your club mates when fishing on rivers... for safety sake.

All Agog At The Annual Gong Ceremony...

At our AGM on June 5th, we received one proposal for a change in the way the biggest fish trophy is awarded. The proposal was put forward by Steve Jefferies and seconded by me. I also put in an amendment, which was voted on and accepted. So, as a result, the heaviest fish trophy will be awarded to the angler with the heaviest recorded fish, caught on any river match that is also a match that qualifies as a points match. As with the heaviest roach trophy, the onus is on YOU to get any specimen fish recorded on the weigh sheet by the scalesman at the time of weighing. All club officers were re-elected en mass. Our finances are very healthy, thanks to match attendances and the club continues to grow.





Alan's long way to Tipperary end peg déjà vu experience comes up trumps again...

Fish date: June 18th. The first match of the new river fishing season was once again held on the crane stretch of the river Avon at Keynsham with 14 anglers in attendance.



The river was low and clear and with temperatures in the low 30s, it was one of the hottest, stickiest, most uncomfortable fishing days I have personally experienced in a long time. I had pegged the stretch the evening before and although the last few pegs were quite a hike, I did fancy drawing anything above peg 11. However, it was not to be as peg 2 seemed to stick to my hand like a magnet despite a touch from old "lucky legs" Leigh Wakefield just before I dived into the draw bag. Kev Murch drew the newly reinstated peg at the end of the straight and Alan Maggs



once again picked the end peg. Alan's ramble and lucky mascot paid off, just as it did last season, with a few fine bream for a total winning weight of 17-12-0. Kev Murch also had bream and finished in second place with 12-00-0. Bream also put in an appearance for Bill Croom who finished in third place with 10-00-0 including a bream of 4-15-0.

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'Cockney Rebel' Picks Up Bangers & Mash at Barton Farm... Would you Adam and Eve it? New boy, Londoner Mark James, pulled it off at Barton Farm on July 9th, beating a small field of just 9 anglers. His total haul of 6-11-0 of prime Lilian Gish was easily enough to beat his nearest rivals and collect the bread and honey. Inform Alan Maggs took second place with 3-15-0, and also picked up a Lady Godiva on the football card to top up his tally of winnings for the season so far. I could easily have caught 4 dogs and 2 kids but not sure I would have been allowed to weigh them in. This match was switched from Monkton Park, Chippenham due to a gala or festival being held in the park on the same day.

Ian Chapple Memorial, Whitehouse Farm, July 30th
 A very quick mention about this one as a few Kingswood Legionnaires supported this charity event. 29 anglers fished and 60-13-0 was top weight off Margaret's lake. We had 2 Legion lads in the money. Bob Hole and John Treasure both won their respective sections. Was it a useful bit of practice for the next match on the 6th?
Away Day - River Kenn on 20th. IF YOU WANT TO FISH THE KENN MATCH LET ME KNOW AS BRIAN IS AWAY: Call 01275 837 577 or 07866 285 950 All for now river warriors!