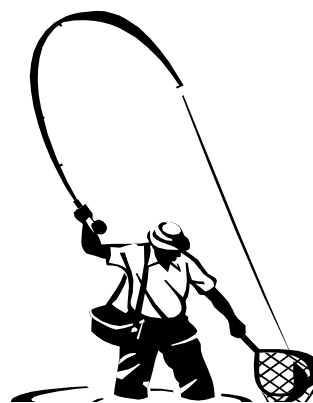


Kingswood Legionnaires

Newsletter

June 2002



In a few days we'll be dragging our laden trolleys through the fields of Queenfield Farm. As usual, we'll be meeting up in the first field for the draw and a round of early morning banter. Rich Watts, having pegged out the day before, will be telling us which swim he fancies and Ted Brown will be demanding money with menaces for the obligatory raffle. Brian Lloyd will be collecting money for this and that, while the rest of us stand around exchanging views and sharing past experiences of this picturesque and multi featured length of beautiful inland waterway. Will anyone really care what peg they pull from the draw bag, as we all scurry across the field to seek our treasured prize? Personally, I will be more than happy just to be there. A day on the river at Queenfield, on the glorious 16th has got to be priceless. Be there and enjoy.

Presentation Social Evening

Where were you? Sadly this year's event returned a financial loss due to numerous 'stay aways'. Attendance has been steadily falling year on year and now the future of this prestigious social gathering is in serious doubt. Over the years, Brian and the committee have strived to organise functions and events like this and the coach outing, for the enjoyment of all members and their friends and families. It's a thankless task and seems to be appreciated less and less each year. If you're not willing to support these traditional events, they will have to be withdrawn indefinitely.

Thanks to Rich Hill, Bob Hole and Ted Brown whose combined crowd made up almost half of the total attendance. And thanks to Andy Gardiner, whose rendition cleared the hall quicker than an IRA bomb scare. Seriously though, well done to everyone who had the balls to get up and have a go. Karaoke Nites will never be the same again! Well done also, to all the trophy winners and to Margaret Lloyd for her persuasive raffle ticket touting tactics.

Match Results

Star & Garter Charity Open - Silver Springs

Around 24 keen anglers (mostly legionnaires) turned up to wet a line at Silver Springs in support of this annual fundraiser, organised by Ted Brown and Den Baker. There may have been more but some were looking for a place named CONGLESBURY and never found it! So for future reference, Ted & Den, it's CONGRESBURY. The winner had around 15lb and came from Cleve-ton.

E. Brown Trophy - Silver Springs, Congresbury

18 members turned out for this club match, which resulted in disappointing weights all round. Billy Croom led the charge with a total bag of 11-9-0, which included a carp of 9-2-0. Our secretary, alias 'Tommy Ruffe' slid into second spot with a well-deserved 7-2-8.

May Trophy - Sedges, Nr Bridgwater

We were told that the carp were 'hot' for cat meat at this venue and so I went into Marks & Spencer and bought the best cat food I could find. Mark Summerhayes bought his from Lidl's and won with 37-1-8. This proves that 2 out of 3 are uncultured, unrefined, boorish animalistic morons.

The carp I mean! Glen Welsh finished runner-up with 26-15-8 of mostly carp in what turned out to be a pleasant day on a much improved landscaped lake. 15 fished.

Westerleigh Lake - Westerleigh - June 2nd

With bank holidays, Jubilee celebrations and the world cup underway, it's not surprising that only 11 anglers turned out to fish what would have otherwise been a sell out match. 'Master of the Pole', Mark Summerhayes, left the rest of the field standing with a stunning 48-4-0 win. Nearest rival was the 'up and coming' Steve Cooke with a meagre 33-3-0 net, comfortably taking the 'bridesmaid' position. Does anyone know anything about this position? Answers on a postcard please.

Forthcoming Events

The coach outing this year is to Beale Park, Reading on **August 17th**. The match will be limited to 25 anglers, due to available luggage space. Guests will be transported to the Oracle Shopping Centre or Beale Country Park. We'll be calling in on our old friends at the Tilehurst Legion for some food, drink and general chitchat. Get your name down now and bring the family for a memorable day out.

July 7th is the date for Pawlett Ponds. Remember the mullet? There is supposed to be bass and pollack in there too! So there could be a couple of new club records on the cards. I just know it's going to be a good day - or am I talking a load of pollacks?

July 21st will be a date to remember. We're off to the Three Counties Fishery on the river Wye. You can expect lots of big chub and barbel. Catching them is a different story!

Other News

- Know anyone who would like to join our friendly club? If you know someone who doesn't take their fishing too seriously, ask them to come along to a meeting or to contact Brian for further information.
- Have you bought a new rod licence? If you haven't been out fishing since our last river match and you intend to fish the next one, you will need to renew your licence.
- I'm thinking of building a club web site this year, with news and views, list of current members, club records, events and match calendar plus much more. If you think it's a good idea, let me know and I'll get started around Aug/Sept.
- Late news... Den Baker's wife is recovering in hospital after a heart attack. Hope all is well Den.

All for now