

The Kingswood Legionnaires' Newsletter

Life Under Lockdown Continues To Disrupt The Kingswood RBL Fishing Calendar... Is The End In Sight?



It's been almost 6 weeks now since we were ordered to stay at home and adhere to social distancing. During this time I've been doing my bit by keeping my distance from the missus but now I'm getting itchy feet and desperately need to get down to the water's edge to cast a line... otherwise, I'll just go **insane**. (And I need to go to the barbers!) Covid-19 is proving to be a real shocker of a disease and I sincerely hope everyone is doing okay. I look forward to the day when we can all get together again for another round of banter and serious rod bending activities. Although we're not exactly sure when that will be, there are signs that some restrictions might be lifted soon, so at least we might be able to get out and wet a line, wet a whistle or whatever. So, I assume you have all been spending your time wisely by brushing up on your cooking and baking skills, decorating, gardening, model-making, fly-tying and singing... right?

'Swanny' Swaggers Off With The Individual Title Following A Series Of Top Performances

Ian Swanborough hardly put a foot wrong as he steadily climbed the individual aggregate leaderboard and stayed there, unopposed, for most of the season. Ian amassed a 76 point total despite the Chippenham match in February being cancelled due to the storms. Some members think that Ian's runaway success can be attributed more to his angling attire rather than his angling skills, believing he simply charmed the fish into his keepnet with his pigtailed, Hopi Indian head-dress and his wry smile. However, whatever method he used to get to the top, it definitely worked and has



earned him the prestigious club champion trophy together with the coveted club tie. Unfortunately, it looks like we won't be having our usual AGM and trophy ceremony in June but rest assured Ian, we will be having a special trophy presentation at the earliest possible date thereafter. Finally, a much deserved congratulations to you and we hope to see you soon.

It's All Change As Paul Wyatt Gets A Taste Of Sweet Success At Bitterwell

As yet again the country looked to be ravaged by storms and with the river already over the bank in many places, a decision was made to switch the final river match, which was to be held at Barton Farm, to a lake. Our first choice was Farleigh Wood but a quick phone call revealed the banks were like a quagmire and it would have been a very muddy affair. Thankfully, Glynn Sage is friendly with the bailiff at Bitterwell Lake (we're not too sure how friendly this relationship is but who cares? ☺) ... so he was able to swing it for us to

have a match at the venue, saving the day and allowing us to get on the bank of a nice tidy lake that many of us hadn't fished in years. As expected, it was slow to get the fish feeding and at times difficult to find a method that would work consistently. News came down the bank that both Ians, Swanborough and Brice, were catching steadily but others were struggling. Paul, however, began latching onto carp using a small method feeder. After he had



landed 3 in a row and with John Treasure also getting in on the act, I decided to change tactics and target silvers. Meanwhile, Leigh was playing silly buggers with a large carp on light elastic and surely now holds the record for how far a pole elastic can stretch. Come the all-out, it was obvious Paul had done more than enough with his 29-0-0 to secure an easy victory on his debut to the water. Leigh weighed in 18-9-0, which included a carp of 15-10-0, for second place, collecting a section win, I managed top silvers with 10-6-0 of skimmers and perch on chopped worm and Ian Brice completed the section payouts with his 6-3-0 total. I think the overall verdict on the venue was mainly positive and certainly one for the future if needed again.

It's The End Of The Line For Lands End Steve As The Easter RBL Match Goes 'Virtual'

The match held at Lands End, Wedmore on April 12th turned out to be a virtual affair, with most anglers hunting around the venue, looking to snare some Easter Bunnies before the draw. However, right on the whistle it was a mad scramble to see who could throw in the most groundbait and pellets with many anglers filling up their margin swims before the first hour was up. Brian Lloyd began the assault on the resident carp by dragging out 3, on subsequent casts, each one over 20lb. Next to Brian was Alan Maggs who promptly fell in after dropping one of his tasty sausage sandwiches. John Treasure and Glynn were at each other's necks after both hooking into the same big carp, which took over 2 hours to land. On the other side of the lake Ian Swanborough and Adrian Dennis were digging around the bank for worms, having left all their bait at home, whilst Jason and Paul were too busy talking about the politics of pegging to be in serious contention. With 3 hours gone, Bill Croom was tearing his hair out and still trying to untangle his pole rig from an overhanging tree, while Clive was now fast asleep and snoring like a banshee. I was having a nightmare after my pole slipped into the water, leaving me with just a whip, which I used to great effect on Tony and Mark who kept laughing and just wouldn't shut the f*ck up all day. Nigel and Kev went off to the café and were not seen again for the rest of the match. Bob and Ian Brice had only caught one gudgeon between them and decided to pack up, while

Leigh managed to persuade a hungry robin to eat all his maggots so at least he could claim to have had a bite. (Who is Johnny Mack?) Eventual winner was super match ace, Steve Jeffries, whose victory weight consisted of 326lb of prime virtual redfins, all caught on spaghetti hoops left over from his recent birthday party. Don't you just love virtual fishing matches?

Where did you finish up last season?

Here's the top 10 aggregate positions, showing total points, and all of the pairs positions with total weights.

I.Swanborough	76	A.Dennis & P.Wyatt	66.14.5
L.Wakefield	63	J.Pitman & B.Lloyd	39.02.5
P.Wyatt	62	I.Brice & I.Swanborough	34.14.5
J.Pitman	59	G.Sage & J.Treasure	32.00.0
B.Knight	52	B.Knight & T.Humphries	26.10.0
A.Dennis	52	A.Maggs & C.Purshouse	18.12.0
A.Maggs	46		
G.Sage	43		
T.Humphries	41		
I.Brice	33		

Well done once again to Ian Swanborough and well done to Adrian and Paul for lifting the Pairs Challenge Trophy.

What else?

Oh Yes! The May match, which should have been or would have been at Farleigh Wood is now officially cancelled (Another virtual match anyone?) and the May committee meeting is also cancelled.

So, with the coronavirus situation as it is, we don't yet know if we'll be having our AGM in June but it is looking very unlikely. However, do not despair fellow benders of long rods and poles, it will simply be rescheduled for a later date in the year, when all trophies will be presented to their rightful owners and new tabs can be purchased forthwith. If your name is on the following list then you'll be required to come and collect your plastic silverware with pride.

Ian Swanborough – Paul Wyatt – Adrian Dennis – Leigh Wakefield – Glynn Sage – Ian Brice – Jason Pitman

A picture to savour...

When I was partaking of my daily exercise routine just recently, I unexpectedly found myself walking along the river bank at Jackie Whites. Of course I just had to get the old snapper out and take this pic so you could drool over it and imagine casting a line to the far side, which was laden with chub to around 2 and 3lbs each.



All for now river warriors! Stay safe!