

*Kingswood Legionnaires***We're Back!**

It's been a looong time... but it's back! I know you've been missing your club newsletter soooo much, so I've taken pity on you all and decided to knock one up, so you can remember what they look like. I don't know if I'll be able to get back to the old monthly routine like before, but perhaps an issue every 2 months... we'll see how it goes.

We'll kick off this September issue by heaping much praise, adoration and admiration on member, John Thompson. I've never seen anyone make so much effort to turn up and compete in our matches like John does. In our last match at Laycock Abbey Fields, John staggered and stumbled across the fields on crutches to reach his peg. Now that's determination for you, and a fine example of "soldiering on" despite his crippling knee problems. Also, together with other members of the "Whitchurch Mafia" he always manages to attend our club meetings, complete with hand in crutch. Or should that be crutch in hand? Anyway, for such a display of bravery and valour, John Thompson... we salute you! (See, this newsletter isn't always about slugging off our members). Right: Photo of John wearing the coveted Club Champion tie.

**Match Results****Woolverton – 21st June**

The long awaited first river match of the new season was, as usual, a little disappointing. Small fish dominated catches on a low and clear river, despite some steady rain over the previous weeks. Ten battle-weary Legion anglers battled it out against each other and against the Post Office Angling Club for six gruelling hours. The emerging club winner on the day was me with just 3lb-6oz of small roach and chub. In second place was Chris Thompson with a similar bag of small fish for 2lb-6oz. (By the way Chris, Alan Maggs had a nice perch of 1lb-6oz). And the result of the inter-club match? We lost! Don't ask me how. I've absolutely no idea how the Post Office work out their results. It's just one of life's little mysteries.

Laycock Abbey Fields – 19th July

Only 9 club anglers put in an appearance for this second match, which is probably just as well because pegs were hard to find amongst the overgrown bank vegetation. The day started out with us all having to park in the Red Lion pub car park because the visitor's car park was locked. Seems like whoever is responsible for opening it, likes to have a lie-in on a Sunday. The river was low and clear but it did rise a few inches during the match, due to some heavy rain showers. Top rod again was me with a mixed bag of small fish totalling 7lb-12oz from end peg just below the sluice. Slipping into the bridesmaid's position was that old stalwart, the hardy John Thompson with a mixed bag of small fish for 6lb-6oz. Recorded fish of the day was a roach of 10oz caught by Bill Croom. * Remember to weigh any good size roach separately because we have a trophy for the

captor of the heaviest at the end of the season. This match also heralded the start of the Pairs Challenge Trophy series.

Individual aggregate Positions to Date

1st Bill Knight-20 points. Joint 2nd Brian Lloyd & Ed Davis-13 points. 4th Bob Hole-10 points. Joint 5th Chris Thompson & John Thompson-9 points. Joint 7th Alan Maggs & Darren Dix-8 points. Joint 9th Clive Purshouse, John Mack & Bill Croom- 5 points. 12th Charlie Denny-4 points. Early days!

Pairs Challenge Trophy Series – Round 1

1st pair (Two Billys) Bill Knight & Bill Croom 11-2-0
 2nd pair (Whitchurch Mafia) Darren Dix & Ed Davis 9-10-0
 3rd pair (Cripples) John Thompson & Clive Purshouse 7-13-0
 4th pair (Handicappers) Bob Hole & Brian Lloyd 7-2-0
 5th pair (Cider Boys) Chris Thompson & John Mack 5-8-0
 Early days!

Other News

- ▶ A very warm welcome to our new members this season: Ted Bethell, Pete Broad, Darren Dix, John McMahon, Olly McDonald & Oscar Ratcliffe-Schofield. (Ooh Ya!)
- ▶ It was nice to see one of our "old" members, Steve Cooke recently at one of our meetings, and we're all glad to hear that his new family is doing very well. We're also glad he paid us his membership renewal fee. ☺
- ▶ Remember! Our meetings are held in the Royal British Legion Club, Kingswood. The first Monday of every month and start at 8.30 pm. All members are welcome to attend.

All For Now!