

The Kingswood Legionnaires' Newsletter

It's time to get straight to the sharpened bit and stop beating about the shrub!

It's been a real hive of activity these past few months, what with matches, the AGM and new members joining our club in droves. At least it seems that way. Nevertheless, there's a bumper-thumper package of news in this month's newsletter for you to savour with no shortage of titillating tales of the river bank and other fantabulous fishy goings on. So, I'm not going to waste any more valuable space with my valiant, verbalistic and tortuous meanderings... just for a change. So let's do this!

It's a Girl! Congratulations to Johnny Mack

Let's kick off with some pleasant news about a new arrival. A beautiful little heaven-sent angel was safely delivered to Johnny Mack and his beloved wife just recently, and has been named Alana Rose. Make the most of the sleepless nights, the endless crying and all the nappy changing John because it could be a lot worse. You could be on the bank with us lot getting bored senseless. Happy days!

Match Results Latest... Match Results Latest...

Carp Catching Croom Fares Well at Farleigh

May 15th - Billy the Kid Croom's cunning plan paid off at Farleigh Wood lake in this much anticipated May trophy match, which saw him heave 22lb-8oz of prime carp to the weigh net for a decisive victory. Drawn on peg 9, Billy fished down the edge on corn to take carp up to 5lb-8oz beating his nearest rival, Leigh Wakefield, who fished to his right on peg 10. Leigh's total weight of 17lb-13oz was enough for second, whilst to the left flank on peg 8 Kev Murch manoeuvred his way to a 16lb-10.5oz net for third.



Bill with his 5lb-8oz carp. Leigh on scalesman duties. Photo by Bill Knight with Bill Croom's camera.

Wonderful Wayward Wakefield's Winning Ways Continue on The Crane

June 19th - Leigh Wakefield continued where he left off last season by producing an impressive 7lb-14oz mixed bag, on a difficult day on The Crane stretch of the river Avon at Keynsham. His comfortable win has placed him right at the top of the leaderboard with the hounds snapping at his heels. Trusty bedfellow Paul Pitt finished in second place just 7oz ahead of Ian Swanborough who was third with 4lb dead. My two 4lb pike would have beaten them out of sight many years ago. However, I was left with a net of battered and bruised roach, which were a pitiful sight as many fell prey to the beastly predators whilst being retrieved from the depths and their relative safety. It was meant to be.

Maggs and Wag Grabs The Swag at Chippenham

July 10th - It couldn't have happened to a nicer feller... no, not that Alan drew the most unfancied peg on the river, it's just despite that, he won quite comfortably. Alan fished mag & wag, (what else?) in his 2ft deep crystal clear swim to temp a 4lb-9oz mixed bag from a very slow and low running river at Riverside Drive, Chippenham. He even had a fairly decent trout, which provided a few minutes of high-flying entertainment for me on the next peg. His nearest rival was that old stalwart and living Legion legend Bob Hole with 3lb-13oz, followed by "new kid on the block" Adrian Dennis who put together a creditable 3lb-10.5oz total, despite his confessions of not being very good at fishing, just before the draw. Lies, lies and more damn lies!

Ian Chapple Memorial, Whitehouse Farm. 24/07
Not a Kingswood Legion club match 'per se' but a fair few Legionnaires attended this annual open event, which attracted an impressive turnout of some 31 anglers. It turned out to be a breeze for some, and a 6-hour grueller for others, however the event did raise £385 for Cancer Research, which is what the occasion was all about. Winner on the day was my old Winter League Team mate Paul Haines with 57lb-6oz of carp from Margaret's Lake. Our very own Leigh 'Fishy McFishface' Wakefield won his section on George's Lake with 23lb-2oz of silvers plus 3 carp. Paul Pitt had a nightmare losing several "animals", but the most unluckiest angler on the day was surely Bob Hole. Bob had tussled with and eventually landed a sizeable carp but during the unhooking process it decided to make a leap for freedom, leaving Bob with nothing more than a distant memory. Let that be a lesson to you... always unhook in the landing net. Ian Brice was drawn on a corner peg and had a few nice fish including a fan-tailed goldfish, pictured below. The black & white picture doesn't do it justice. It was nice to see some old faces at the match and when I say old, I'm not kidding. Alcove's Mick Hibberd is 90 years old and still fishing. Bloody marvelous!



Photo: Ian Brice with a suspicious looking goldfish.

Everyone check your ponds and report any missing goldfish to the police immediately

I wonder whether the dark glasses are to hide his identity.

Nice one all the same.

*** A warm Welcome To New Members ***

Welcome to the club Ian Swanborough, Adrian Dennis, John Treasure, Rod Lloyd, Colin Scott, Martin Trott and Russell Wilson.

Forthcoming Matches & Events

I don't know why it is but after every match I see anglers scurrying around asking everyone in sight when the next match is and where. This is despite everyone having a tab, with venues and dates plus a calendar, also showing the upcoming events. So, for those confused individuals, here are the next 4 events, which takes us up to the end of September.

Sunday Aug 7th, Whitehouse Farm, Inter-Club
This will be a 9am draw, (I think) but be there before 8.30am. Fishing will be from 10am till 4pm.

Sunday Aug 14th Avalon Fisheries (Away Day)
This is our annual "away day" match, which for those who can remember, used to be our coach outing to wild and wonderful places far and wide. This fishery has a sh*tload of match rules and you need to know about them before you get there. Here is the list of match rules, as shown on their website:

1. All nets must be dry before use.
2. Keepnets allowed for matches with a limit of **80lbs** for carp and **50lbs** for silvers per net. Lay your nets out on the bank until **5 minutes before the start of the match**.
3. Pleasure anglers can use keepnets for silvers only between October and March.
4. Maximum of two rods, (one at a time please) and do not leave them unattended.
5. Fish from platforms only.
6. Barbless hooks only, maximum size 10.
7. No braided reel line.
8. All leads and feeders must be free running.
9. Minimum hooklength for legering is **12"** (30cm).
10. Feed pellets can only be coarse or carp pellets. No cat meat, dog meat, boilies, nuts, beans or peas and no surface baits.
11. Luncheon meat - maximum 3 x 400g tins.
13. Groundbait maximum of 2kgs.
14. No lighting fags... sorry, fires.

Sunday Sep 11th Barton Farm, Chippenham
8.30am draw on the footpath, fish 10am till 3pm.

Sunday Sep 25th Christian Malford
8.30am draw in the car park, fish 10am till 3pm.

John Thompson – John has been busy learning to walk again, on his prosthetics, and this week has undergone the reconstructive operation on his nose. He continues to make a determined recovery.

Margaret Lloyd – Continues to make very slow progress towards making a full recovery from a recent fall, despite the burden of having Brian as her darling nagging husband.

Want to fish any of our matches? Then pick up the blower and give Brian a bell no later than the Friday evening prior (before) to the match. Cheers!

AGM Supplement

Annual General Meeting & Presentation

It seems so long ago now but it's only been 2 months since we had our AGM and for the first time in a very long time (oh yes, those were the days) we had a brilliant attendance. Thanks to all for making the effort to support this important event. Well it was the usual back-slapping, hooray Henry type of affair, with trophies in abundance and recipients agog. It's just got to be done... and so below, are snaps of the lucky beggars who were clever enough to win themselves a piece of shiny plastic for all their efforts during the 2014/15 season.



Above – Bob Hole getting his just desserts.
Below – Clive Purshouse had a memorable season and emerged a deserved trophy winner for 2015/16



Below - Leigh da man with silverware and a smile.



Above - Moi with trusty shield of faith & deliverance



Above - Bill the president gets in on the act.
Below – Chippenham chuckle brothers have the last laugh as they collect the Pairs Challenge Trophy.



You can be forgiven for thinking it might have been a darts contest, with the highly conspicuous dartboard in the background. Perhaps we should get the Kingswood Legion banner out for future AGMs. Well that's it until next year, when we expect to see a few more new faces amongst the trophy hunters. Well done everyone who featured this year.

Look out for the next thrilling newsletter and if you want to be in it, then get catching.

All for now river warriors! ☺