

The Kingswood Legionnaires' Newsletter

There are good matches and there are bad matches...

And then there are matches that beggar belief. I am of course referring to our annual Christmas event held on the river Frome at Stowford, Farliegh Hungerford, back in December. All those in attendance will vouch for the crazy antics displayed by a dozen or more mentally unbalanced men, on a day that saw hurricane winds, torrential rain and a fast rising river absolutely ruin the day. Back at the jolly Hungerford Arms, we were served up the most basic food... of the 3rd kind, which was missed completely by two members who obviously hadn't read the newsletter for the past 2 years. They decided to go to the Mill instead, and although I don't blame them as the food is undoubtedly of much higher quality there, that doesn't diminish from the fact that the presentation happened to be elsewhere chaps. However, at least we were entertained by Leigh's impromptu pole dancing act, and although others were encouraged to join in with the twisting and wriggling, there was to be no parting of the sections. Oh how we laughed!

Baggin' Alan, Bullhead Bob, Billy the Minnow and Bleak Steve...

Battled it out against all the odds at the Xmas match held on the river Frome, with Alan Maggs claiming a decisive victory with a whopping 3.5 oz of prime redfins. The veteran expert tempted his prize catch with red maggot to an 18 hook, taking the pools pot and first choice of prizes. He also amassed mega points in the individual aggregate table, which propelled him into pole position. In second place was old stalwart Bob Hole, who presented the scalesman with a specimen bullhead of 1oz, taking the knockout trophy for his efforts. Bill Croom and travelling

companion, Steve Jefferies, shared the spoils in third place. Tommy Ruffe took the Muppet of the Match award... justifiably. All the winner's photos are shown here.



Above, Alan Maggs collecting his ill-gotten gains with Brian Lloyd posing proudly with Muppet hat. Left, happy days at the Hungerford Arms. Below Bob Hole and Bill Croom collecting their Xmas cash.



Unexpected Items In The Bagging Area!

Fish date: River Avon, Crane, January 14th, 2018, will be a date Steve Jefferies will almost certainly never forget. On a very hard day (yet again) and on a river flowing with extremely cold water, the fish were very reluctant to feed, leaving 6 of the 10 anglers who did make an effort, without a bite. Those unfortunate 6 anglers were drawn in the first field. However, over the style and into the second field and it was a very different story. Steve had drawn a peg up on the straight and his quarry was to be skimmers, with ground bait feeder. He didn't have to wait long before the first one put in an appearance, followed by several more for a very easy, and virtually uncontested victory. It was his first win since joining the K&H RBL AC some years



ago. His nearest rival was Adrian Dennis who weighed in with just 1-11-0, followed by Ian Swanborough with just 13oz. A dire day for most but well done to Steve, who it is rumoured was given some insider information, which helped him clinch the trophy. (I don't just believe that!)

A Walk In The Park For Kev Murch...

It certainly was a pleasant walk in Monkton Park for Kev on Sunday, 18th February as we competed on the Avon at Chippenham. With the sluice gates opening every 20 minutes or so it wasn't ideal fishing conditions although weights were a little better than expected. Kev attacked his swim with groundbait feeder and latched onto one of the rare resident bream, which scaled just over 4lbs. Some decent size skimmers then quickly followed. He also netted a 2lb chub to swell his overall tally to 8-3-0 ahead of Ian Swanborough who produced a nice net of quality roach for 6-11-0 and a second placing. Ian caught all his fish on float and maggot, holding back against the flow in around 9ft of water. It was poetry in motion.

Next match...

Will be the final river match of the season, and as usual will be held at Barton Farm, Bradford-on-Avon. Temperatures are set to rise into double figures but with the expectation of much salted rainwater seeping into the river, it could prove to be a bit tricky on the day. This is an invitation match and so we expect to see some Airsprung faces amongst us, although not many. It will also be the last match of the season, which will count for individual

aggregate points and the pairs' aggregates points. And we all know what point make don't we? So how are you faring this time around? Take a look at the leader board here...

A. Maggs	46
B. Knight	42
B. Hole	40
A. Dennis	37
M. James	33
B. Croom	32
I. Swanborough	32
K. Murch	28
S. Jefferies	24
L. Wakefield	24
P. Pitt	22
J. Treasure	22
C. Purshouse	21
N. Vigus	14
B. Lloyd	13
J. Mack	10
I. Brice	10
R. Lloyd	6

It's squeaky bum time at the top with just 6 points separating the top 3 anglers. So, it's pretty safe to say the individual aggregate winner trophy will definitely be going to one of these 3 bods.

This time last year, the picture was very different but then one top competitor has been away honing his winter league fishing skills, whilst the other has had an absolute nightmare of a season. (Haven't you PP? ☺)

The pairs aggregate is even more interesting with just 10.5 oz separating the top 2 pairs. Last year the winning pair had over 48lb, so just goes to show what a poor season it has been. Take a look at how you have fared with your partner...

1	M. James & K. Murch	28.01.8
2	B. Knight & I. Swanborough	27.07.0
3	A. Dennis & S. Jefferies	16.02.0
4	C. Purshouse & A. Maggs	14.03.8
5	B. Lloyd & B. Hole	10.11.0
6	I. Brice & P. Pitt	08.09.0
7	B. Croom & J. Treasure	05.01.0

Fish Legal...

Don't forget to renew your rod licence before the end of March. The EA needs your money... for something.

Forthcoming matches...

I know they are in the calendar but I have a sneaky feeling some people are not checking... So in April we will be at Sabre Lake, near Calne and the May match is at our favourite Farleigh Wood venue.

Next club meeting...

Due to the first Monday in April being Easter Monday, the club meeting has now been moved to Tuesday 3rd.

Club clothing...

Anyone interested in club clothing for the new season? I will be taking orders at the next matches (April & May)

More trophies going begging...

The heaviest fish recorded this season is a bream of 5-14-8 by Mark James but there has been nothing registered for the heaviest roach yet... it could get away.

All for now river warriors! (Happy Mother's Day)