



Laughing, Joking, Handshaking And Back Slapping Time!

Welcome to the October edition! Catch up with all the latest news and views right here including match results, who's who is the aggregate points table this season, plus some more match results, who's leading the pairs pack, plus even more match results and some snazzy black and white photos taken on my mobile phone. It's all here!

By the time you read this newsletter we will have already said goodbye to one season and be well on our way into another. Oh yes, news travels at a cumbersome pace here at Newsletter HQ, down in deepest, darkest Stockwood. Well, unless you've been living on planet Zod for the last 6 months you will have realised that we are no longer fishing at Woolverton. So, instead our first match of the new season was on the Crane at Keynsham, with some absolutely shocking results (See Match Results). This match was organised by our buddies from the Post Office but still counts as our first match as far as points are concerned. Well, before we get into the match results proper, here are a few snaps of some happy chaps picking up their rewards during our annual prize-giving and AGM. Okay, not quite the Oscars but just as important me thinks ☺



< On the left is Johnny Thompson collecting his just desserts from club president Billy Croom. I don't know how JT managed to pull this off but I suspect there was a bit of jiggery-pokery involved somewhere. Well done to John, who was rewarded for winning the May Trophy match.

> On the right is Brian "Tommy Ruffe" Lloyd receiving a rare cabinet piece. He looks totally bemused by all the fuss and he's still staring at it today in disbelief! Well credit where it's due. Brian won the Christmas match at Woolverton after receiving a little tip off about fishing bread for chub on peg 14. He did of course also pick up the top prize on the day, which I think was 2 chipolatas and a handful of chips at the Mill pub presentation.



Okay so just trying to fill some space so that I can get over the page and put a couple more photos in... Right... well... that's a couple of lines already!

Our club continues to shrink in numbers although a steady 8-9 are making it to the matches, which is great. Other river clubs are facing similar problems and it can only get worse as new young club anglers are virtually non-existent

On the other side of the coin however, clubs with their own waters, especially lakes seem to be thriving. In fact they're not really thriving. There's just a pool of active anglers who join several clubs and move around within this circle of existing clubs. With very few new anglers taking up the sport, chances are angling as we know it will die out completely within a generation. Sad but true.

Great! Made it to the other side. Here's more happy snaps of chaps getting into flaps about pats on backs.



< On your left is a serious looking Alan Maggs collecting his ill-gotten gains from president Billy. Alan won his much deserved memento for his efforts at Woolverton back in June 2013. The telecoms engineer sweet-talked 3lb-8oz of roach and chub into his waiting keepnet with promises of cheaper phone calls.

> Bob Hole looks on in the background as "Billy The Kid" Croom holds aloft his silverware for catching the heaviest fish of the season. It was an 8lb carp, which surrendered at Whitehouse Farm during the Alcove v RBL interclub contest. Well done chaps!



Club Match, Crane, Keynsham - 22nd June

This was both our first club match and an interclub contest with Bristol Post Office. I had walked the river the day before as there was a match on and I was interested to learn what was happening. Well, all the action was on the end peg at number 15 with a couple of large bream being caught. So peg 15, although the longest walk, was the one to draw. It fell to "Tommy Ruffe" and so I passed on the vital inside information, which did the business. (The shocking result was...) Brian won hands down with a convincing 8lb-15.5oz, which included a whopping 5lb-12oz dustbin lid. His nearest rival was Johnny Mack who worked hard for a 3lb-8.5oz net.

Club Match, Monkton Park, Chippenham - 13th July

Six Legion and one Post Office angler turned out for this mid-summer jaunt in the park, which had everyone struggling for bites due to a virtually motionless river. Small perch were showing in numbers but it wasn't perch that clinched the deal of the day. After a bit of deduction, based on a little local information, Billy Croom hit the jackpot with some rather large slippery eels. The Kingswood based "Peaky Blinder" cut the opposition into pieces with his 6lb-9oz total taking top spot and a pocket full of lolly. I managed to stave off the rest of the field with my 4lb-5oz for runner-up position beating my pairing bed fellow, Clive Purshouse, by just one ounce.

InterClub Match, Stowford Meadows - 7th September

Only two Airsprung rods represented their mighty club for this one, which was held on a sluggish moving and very moody river Avon at Stowford. I always get a bad feeling when fishing here mainly due to losing the top 5 sections of my beloved pole a few years back. If only I'd have had a pole sock, as someone keeps reminding me! Well, a few large fish

were hooked and lost, or so I was told (oh yeah?) Otherwise it was a fairly uneventful day, except for Bobby Hole who quietly dug himself in and winkled himself out some 3lb-15oz of chublets to win the day. Bob was drawn on peg 1, which has thrown up a few winners over the past. On his knees and in the bridesmaid position was Johnny "I don't dye my hair" Thompson, with a similar but smaller netful for 2lb-12oz picking up some very welcome beer money in the process.

InterClub Match, Crane, Keynsham - 12th October

This was the second match of the season at this venue and with the absence of any bream it was over to the chub and roach to make up the weights. Frome Vale was the club in our sights for this inter-compo and it was one of their own who stole the show with a commanding 15lb plus net of quality chub taken on maggot feeder. However, I came to the rescue of the Legionnaires with a straight 5lb of roach taken on pole and maggot at 14 feet deep to take the runner-up spot.. and topped it off with another fiver on the football card. Blinding!

Aggregate positions to date

1st: Bill Knight - 23 points, 2nd: Bob Hole - 20 points, 3rd: Clive Purshouse - 15 points, 4th: John McMahon - 13 points, 5th: John Thompson - 12 points, Joint 6th: Brian Lloyd & Bill Croom - 11 points, 8th: Ed Davis - 9 points, 9th: Alan Maggs - 8 points.

Pairs positions to date

1st: Bill Knight & Clive Purshouse - 19lb-11oz. 2nd: Bill Croom & John Thompson - 15lb-8.5oz. 3rd: Brian Lloyd & Ed Davis - 8lb-3.5oz.

Next Match

K&A Canal, Semington then the Alcove Poppy on Nov. 2nd, Legion Poppy on Nov.9th and then Kelston on Nov. 23rd. ☺