

The Kingswood Legionnaires' Newsletter

It's Enough To Make A Grown Fisherman Cry!



Hey, all you old float flickers... want to know how to catch fish? Just take a few tips from this 8-year old first timer. My plucky little Grandson, Justin, spent just 2 short hours at Plantations Fishery, near Clevedon and caught 8 quality 6-8oz roach and 2 large skimmers, each weighing almost 2lb each. He had never even seen a fishing rod or pole before and only needed 20 minutes tuition. He took to his new-found sport like a duck to water leaving everyone else around him totally gobsmacked. He caught all his fish on sweetcorn at the day ticket water.... And is now offering anglers coaching lessons. Book yours now!



South Cerney Away Day Is The Pits!

It seems so long ago now when our annual away day meant an exciting coach journey to some far off exotic fishing venue, with the relatives swept off to spend their one and only holiday of the year at the seaside or at some luxurious shopping mall. Nowadays, the event is much more lack-lustre with everyman for himself and a lonely drive to some dodgy venue that was once rumoured to be home to massive shoals of quality fish beyond your wildest dreams. So, for this year we had booked Gillman's Lake, one of South Cerney Angling Club's mature gravel pits. It promised large bags of hard fighting tench up to 5lb and "dustbin lid" bream of the same size with an ample sprinkling of carp up to 15lb. There should also have been gobs of 8oz "nuisance fish" to contend with. However, after 6 unwavering hours of unyielding concentration and expectations, it delivered paltry weights, many sad and bewildered faces and a slew of broken hearts. Well that about sums it up. The event was held on August 19th and attracted 11 of the club's finest. With only an ounce in the bag at the halfway stage, a tail-walking, worm gobbling pike added some excitement to my day, albeit short lived as pike don't count in our matches. Undeterred, I kept the

groundbait going in, hoping and praying to snag a bream. Bob Hole on the next peg had chucked out the pellet feeder and managed to snare one of about 4lb so there was always hope of a few more in the vicinity. News came down the bank that John Treasure was bagging up on carp with one at around 10lb in the net. Finally, with about 90 minutes to go I hooked into a fine fighting tench of around 4lb. Soon after, I was into a bream of about the same size, quickly followed by another tench around the 3lb mark. Then the sun came out and the action stopped just as quickly as it started. Results: 1st Killy Willy, 11-6-0, 2nd John Treasure, 9-13-0 (1 carp), 3rd Bob Hole, 6-2-0. 4th Alan Maggs, 5-5-0. Football card winner was Brian, collecting his first £5 win ever on the random chance game card. Verdict: Disappointing. Let's have your ideas for next year please

Clive Collects The Purse At Barton Farm

This year's Fred Bryant Cup match was held at Barton Farm on 9th September with 12 anglers in attendance. Paul Pitt was away (bagging at Whiteacres) so it was left to me and Alan Maggs to peg out in the morning. We spaced out the pegging so everyone had plenty of room, although with little flow on the river it didn't really make

a lot of difference. The weather was much more comfortable than the 30 degrees we experienced during the last match at this venue so at least we didn't have that to worry about... just the fishing. Would it produce? Would the bream feed? These are the usual questions we always seem to ask when we're at Bradford. Well, as usual we all wanted a high number at the draw, just in case the bream did put in a show. As it turned out, they didn't and surprisingly the low numbers proved favourite on the day. I was drawn on peg 4, with only Clive above me on peg 2. My plan was to bait up with 8 large balls of groundbait at 10 metres and fish chopped worm on the inside line. I went straight out on the pole over the groundbaited area, fishing single red maggot and started catching small roach right away. I've found that the first hour or two are always the most productive here, so an aggressive approach is key to getting a good head start. When the bites slowed I swapped over to the inside line with chopped worm and bagged a couple of nice perch. Perch will feed throughout the day, in fits and starts, so you have to keep the choppie going in regularly. I remember when I was a kid, reading all those old fishing books, and in one of them it stated that perch regularly patrol their hunting ground. It takes around 20 minutes for them to do this, which means it could take up to 20 minutes to get a bite. So, after a couple of perch it went quiet. Next, I put 2 more balls of groundbait out on the 10 metre line and had a few more roach until once again the swim died. Then it was back on the inside line for a couple more perch, pulling out of at least 2 bigger fish and dropping a smaller one on the in-swing. The last hour was pretty quiet with just one small roach to show for all the effort. I had no idea how everyone else had fared but I suspected the bream didn't show as I didn't have any skimmers. Well, weights were very low and according to the scalesman Mark James was top with over 4lb. My net of roach and perch went 6-14-8 with only Clive yet to weigh. It seems Clive fished a similar method to me, focusing more on the perch and landing a few hefty fighting stripeys to knock me off top spot by 3.5 ounces. Well done Clive. Results: 1st Clive Purshouse, 7-2-0, 2nd Bill Knight, 6-14-8, 3rd Mark James, 4-8-0. Brian won the football card **again!**

The Postman Delivers The Goods At Staverton

It appears the 12 anglers who attended this event, a first for the Legionnaires club, fell head over heels in love with the place. And it wasn't because of the lovely fillies on display either, although several anglers did seem to have a problem putting their eyeballs back into their sockets and lifting their tongues up off the ground. (If your wife reads this newsletter, just deny everything). This idyllic stretch of the Bristol Avon is accessed through a stable yard, which opens out into several fields and are used for exercising racehorses. The real beauty of this venue is being able to drive through the fields and park right up behind your peg. That's well worth the £3 peg fee alone. Paul Pitt kindly pegged out for us on a very wet morning, and based on some local advice he spaced the pegs with some generosity... but alas, the fish were not willing to co-operate on this

particular day. Those pegs, which are numbered in the mid-30s to mid-50s are known chub pegs and those numbered from 1 to 8 are well-known bream pegs, quite often producing 80-100lb nets. Everywhere else it's roach and bits. I was drawn on permanent peg 10 so it was a case of roach or bust... unfortunately it was bust. However, plucky postman Ian Brice, stamped his authority on this one by latching into a very welcome 5lb plus bream on peg 2 for a clear and decisive victory catch, totalling 6-8-0. Ian Swanborough used his loaf to good effect, catching 3 small chub for 4-3-0 on flake whilst potty pegger, Polly Pitt pegged on peg 6 proceeded to put 3-12-0 on the scales for a section win. Bob Hole also took a section with his 2-7-0 mixed bag of bits. The consensus was that we should return next year for another go. Don't forget to bring your blinkers chaps!

How is your fishing faring so far?

The individual and pairs aggregate matches are now well under way so let's take a quick peak at who's where and what's what...

Individual aggregate points table

1	B.Knight	32
2	A.Dennis	30
3	C.Purshouse	29
4	I.Swanborough	26
5	A.Maggs	23
6	M.James	20
7	I.Brice	20
8	J.Treasure	19
9	P.Pitt	17
10	B.Hole	12
11	B.Lloyd	10
12	G.Sage	9
13	K.Murch	7
14	E.Davis	3
15	J.Pitman	3

It's early days yet with 5 more points matches to go and the possibility of adding a further 50-60 points to your tally. Despite how the table looks right now, it's still wide open and anyone's guess who will be popping the champers come March next year. If you don't see your name on the list it's because you don't have any points yet.

Pairs aggregate weight table

B.Knight & Adrian Dennis	20.15.5
A.Maggs & C.Purshouse	15.03.0
G.Sage & M.James	09.12.0
B.Lloyd & I.Swanborough	07.14.0
J.Treasure & I.Brice	07.04.5
R.Hole & P.Pitt	03.05.5

Again, it's very early days so don't panic!!! There's plenty of time to knock these 2 smug gits off the top spot ☺

Next match!!!

You may have noticed that according to your tab, the next match, which is on the Crane, will be on the 14th October. However, the calendar, which is produced 7 months earlier, shows the date for the next match as being the 7th of October. **It's the 14th and that's official!** It's the Gloucester canal on 21st Oct, and we'll be in touch about meeting up for this one.

Photos... Photographer extraordinaire, Bill Croom, hasn't been around for a while but I keep relaying his messages about taking photos. Come on lads, get your snappers out!

Welcome new member: Jason Pitman.

All for now river warriors! ☺