

Reading & District Angling Association

Match Scene 8 August - 4 September 2023



WHIP PROVES THE WAY TO GO

Reading Fishing Club fished Calcot on 13 August and, with the river still proving a tough nut to crack, a change of approach could be the way to success. Richard Rosinski fished whip tactics for small fish, and this ended in a successful way to win as he scaled 4lbs 14oz of roach, bleak and perch. Mark Hornblow was second with 3lbs and the six anglers managed a total of 13lbs 4ozs between them.

LOWER BENYONS THROWS UP A SURPRISE

Prestcold's match on Sunday 20 August at Lower Benyons Yellow section proved once again that the river is hard to fish. However, the joy of fishing rivers is that you never really know what to expect when that float goes under and on this occasion the capture of four grayling between 6ozs and 1lb in weight highlights the case. The winner on the day was John Main. Fishing stick float tactics with maggots and hemp John weighed 2lbs 1oz which included two Grayling from the last peg on the section. Mike Sheasby was second with Perch and small silvers to record 1lb 11ozs from a peg in the middle of the section. The other seven anglers scratched around for small fish to boost the total weight to 9lbs 7oz 8dr.

ANOTHER SURPRISE AT UFTON

TRBLAS fished Ufton on Sunday 20 August and again a surprise turned up. EC stalwart Fred Jones managed to hook three sizable Bream. Unfortunately, he only managed to land one of them but that was enough to win the contest with 3lbs 13ozs. The one Bream he did catch weighed in at 3lbs but even so would have put up a stern test in the flow on light stick float tactics. Keith O'Keefe was just 7ozs behind in second with 3lbs 4ozs of dace, roach and perch. A disappointing turnout of 5 still managed to put 14lbs 5ozs on the scales which, as averages go, is not bad.

TUESDAY CLUB RETURN TO WILLMOTT'S

After a small break The Tuesday Club returned to Willmott's Pool to do battle with the carp and the fifteen anglers were not disappointed as a total of 479lbs were taken to the scales. The winner was Phil Lush with a mere 78lbs 8ozs followed by John Ambrose with 50lbs 12ozs.

NO CHANGE OF LUCK FOR READING CIVIL SERVICE

Continuing their bad luck Reading Civil Service had to cancel their third match on the bounce as Wallingford A is not accessible due to ongoing works to Benson's Weir.

CHANGE OF VENUE WORKS BUT TURNOUT STILL LOW

The RDAA match on 27 August was changed from the poor performing Kennet to Wallingford. Even though it was a bank holiday weekend, and the boat traffic consequently was high, the switch proved to work as the seven anglers managed to weigh in a combined weight of 38lbs 3ozs. Fred Jones continued his recent winning ways by taking the contest with a catch of roach predominantly as well as skimmers, perch, and small chub to record a weight of 9lbs 3ozs. He used stick float tactics and seemed to get many fish on sweetcorn and tare. Second, to conclude a clean sweep of EC members, was Andy Chapman who also used the sweetcorn/tare tactics but on the waggler, to weigh in 7lbs 11oz of mainly Roach with also the odd perch and small chub.

AL LAST THE KENNET PRODUCES

The RDAA match on 3 September for the Association Cup and Ferricon Press Trophy was held on Beats 4 and 5 of the Kennet and after the poor showing over the summer only 20 anglers decided to take on the challenge. With a moderate flow and slight colour, and with a pleasant enough day weather wise there seemed to be a good chance that the river may fish better. Phil Allen was pegged on Beat 5A on what is known as the sandbags peg and he managed to bank a chub of 2lbs 8ozs together with mainly roach and some perch and dace thrown in to win with the best weight so far on all RDAA matches at 18lbs. Phil went traditional and caught all his fish on stick float and waggler tactics with maggot on the hook over hemp and caster and maggot feed.



Phil Allen with his winning catch – photo G. McGee

Andy Chapman finished second once again on what is proving to be a good season for him. Fishing on the concrete blocks peg on Beat 5A, Andy chose to use bolo float tactics with single and double red maggot and caster on the hook, over hemp, caster and maggot feed, to record a weight of 6-12-0. Section winners were Richard Rosinski on Beat 4A with 5lbs 9ozs 8dms, Fred Jones on Beat 4B with 6lbs 3ozs and Tony Tibble on Beat 5B with 5lbs 14ozs. It was good to see everyone weighing in to swell the total weight to 80lbs 2ozs 8dms. A rather relieved and pleased Match Secretary, Mike Sheasby was heard to say “That’s more like it.”

TRBLAS are leading the Club Championship after three rounds with 63lbs 9ozs from YOTAC/21 Club on 32lbs 15ozs 4dms. Reading Civil Service are third with 23lbs 2ozs 8dms and Excelsior are fourth with 11lbs 11ozs 8dms. Reading Fishing Club are a surprising fifth with only 7lbs 9ozs and Prestcold are sixth with 4lbs 9ozs.

After his big win it is no surprise to see Phil Allen at the top of the individual aggregate weight trophy and Steve O'Keefe is setting the pace for the aggregate points trophy. Next points match will be on November 5.

INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE WEIGHT TROPHY

Phil Allen	Reading Civil Service	20	4	8
Andy Chapman	TRBLAS	14	12	0
Alan Hughes	YOTAC/21 Club	10	15	8
Steve O'Keefe	TRBLAS	10	1	0
Tony Tibble	TRBLAS	8	0	0
Duncan Bales	YOTAC/21 Club	7	12	0
Richard Rosinski	Reading Fishing Club	7	9	8
Martin Hutchins	Excelsior	7	5	8
Fred Jones	TRBLAS	7	4	8
Mick Donohoe	YOTAC/21 Club	7	0	8
Peter Godfrey	TRBLAS	6	6	8
Spencer Couzens	TRBLAS	5	7	0
John Monaighan	TRBLAS	4	13	0
Dave Clarke	Excelsior	4	6	0
George Callaghan	YOTAC/21 Club	4	0	0

INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE POINTS TROPHY

Steve O'Keefe	TRBLAS	26 Points
Phil Allen	Reading Civil Service	24 Points
Mick Donohoe	YOTAC/21 Club	20 Points
Martin Hutchins	Excelsior	20 Points
Fred Jones	TRBLAS	20 Points
Tony Tibble	TRBLAS	20 Points
Andy Chapman	TRBLAS	18 Points
Spencer Couzens	TRBLAS	18 Points
Peter Godfrey	TRBLAS	18 Points
Graham Hawkins	Prestcold	18 Points
Richard Rosinski	Reading Fishing Club	16 Points
Duncan Bales	YOTAC/21 Club	14 Points
Alan Hughes	YOTAC/21 Club	14 Points
Rob Stephens	YOTAC/21 Club	12 Points
Justin Mabere	Individual	10 Points

It will be good to see old and new anglers at the next RDAA matches. These are on Sunday 24 September at Wallingford B (should be a good one, book in direct with Mike Sheasby), and the RDAA teams of four match is on Sunday 1 October on Beats 4 and 5 book through your affiliated club or Mike Sheasby. Let's see as many teams as possible on the improving river!