

# Reading & District Angling Association

## Match Scene 9 July to 5 August 2024



### **THEALE FRUSTRATIONS**

On Sunday 14 July, Reading Fishing Club's match at Theale River didn't fish that badly in relation to the RDAA match on the Kennet the previous week. In a tight contest the total weight was 11lbs 12ozs with Steve Palmer taking the spoils with a winning weight of 2lbs 15ozs and Rob Stephens second just 3ozs behind. Seven anglers turned out, but none were drawn on the better pegs as boats were moored in them. Not only frustrating for the anglers but it must be also frustrating for the Fisheries team (in particular Jim Stansfield) to have done so much work creating the swims, only for the jolly sailors to nick them with their river and fishing ruining machines! Perhaps the owners of these boats should pay a fee to our fisheries team for the work done to make their lives easier.

### **NO BOATS BUT NO BETTER**

Also on Sunday 14 July, Prestcold were fishing just upstream from the Theale venue on Lower Benyons Yellow Section. The distinct absence of silver fish meant this turned into a tough encounter for the 9 souls that turned out with only 3lbs taken to the scales. Drawn in the middle of the section was Geoff Eley who managed to record a magnificent 14ozs catching 4 small dace and many minnows using stick float tactics with maggot on the hook. John Main chose to use maggot feeder for his 4 dace, weighing 9ozs to come joint second with Ryan Bailey who used the same tactics to snare the best fish of the day, a 9oz grayling. Two anglers blanked completely, and the others were too embarrassed to weigh in their small catches on a very disappointing day.

### **SUNDIAL AT WILLMOTT'S POOL**

Also, on Sunday 14 July, seven anglers from Sundial AC took on Willmott's Pool. This is a rare visit from the Londoners to this venue, so it was a little frustrating for them that many anglers had ignored the booking sheet and tried to muscle in on a closed water. Our booking secretary only books one match a month during the summer as the venue is very popular, surely the pleasure anglers can adhere to the booking sheet for one day. The seven men managed to weigh a total of 164lbs 6ozs and even a Tench was caught. The winner scaled 57lbs 11ozs which is quite respectable and despite the constant interruptions from pleasure anglers wishing to fish a booked venue they had a decent day. **REMEMBER ALWAYS CHECK THE WATER BOOKINGS BEFORE FISHING ON ANY SUNDAY.**

## **NEWTOWN STAY ON STILLWATER**

Newtown continued their Stillwater action by visiting Brown-Lee Pool on Sunday 21 July. Again, a healthy turnout of 13 anglers attended, but unfortunately the venue continued to be a tough nut to crack. Richard Herman Jr included a carp of 9lbs 2ozs in his winning haul of 9lbs 10ozs. In second place was Roger Saunders with an all silvers catch of 3lbs 14ozs and the senior half of the Herman clan was third with another all silvers catch of 2lbs. A disappointing overall weight of 18lbs 7ozs proved how difficult a match venue the lake can be.

## **RDAA MATCH.**

The second additional RDAA match on Sunday 21 July was, like the first, cancelled due to lack of support. Match anglers tend to have lots of gear with them so the long walk with heavy kit in summer is not a particularly welcome addition. On Sunday 4 August, 18 anglers turned up to fish for the Preservation Cup. The warm weather and gentle breeze coupled with a good-looking river with moderate flow, hopes for a good match were high. The total weight of 34lbs 6ozs though better than the previous match is still disappointing and failed to beat the 2lb per angler mark, much cause for concern and will affect the numbers entering going forward. Having finished second on the July match Phil Allen drew the winning peg from that match (last downstream peg on Beat 4B) and made no mistake accumulating mainly Roach to 4ozs with a couple of Dace using a combination of stick float, bolo and waggler tactics, with red maggot on the hook, over maggot feed, to record a weight of 4lbs 14ozs. Martin Hutchins was second overall. Fishing on the "coffin" peg in the middle of Beat "4B" section, Martin also banked mainly Roach to 4ozs along with one Dace fishing stick float tactics, with red maggot on the hook, over hemp, caster and maggot feed, to weight of 4lbs 9ozs. There were only three sections used for this match and Section Beat 5A was won by Justin Mabere with 2lbs 8ozs 8dr and Beat 5B went to Spencer Couzens with 2lbs 6ozs. One good thing to note is that all 18 anglers managed to bring fish to the scales, which is important, not only for the statistics but for the club championship and individual aggregate trophies.

## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

- |                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Tilehurst British Legion AS | 16lbs 01oz     |
| 2. Prestcold AC                | 6lbs 10ozs 8dr |
| 3. Reading Civil Service       | 6lbs 10ozs     |
| 4. Excelsior                   | 6lbs 09ozs     |
| 5. YOTAC/21 Club               | 6lbs 07ozs 8dr |
| 6. Reading Fishing Club        | 2lbs 15ozs     |

**INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE WEIGHT TROPHY**

1.	Phil Allen	6lbs 01oz
2.	Graham Hawkins	5lbs 14ozs 8dr
3.	Martin Hutchens	5lbs 04ozs 8dr
4.	Stephen Church	3lbs 06ozs
5.	Richard Rosinski	2lbs 15ozs
6.	Justin Mabere	2lbs 14ozs 8dr
7.	Andy Chapman	2lbs 07ozs 8dr
8.	Spencer Couzens	2lbs 06ozs
9.	Tony Tibble	2lbs 02ozs 8dr
10.	Duncan Bales	2lbs 00ozs 8dr
11.	Fred Jones	2lbs 00ozs
12.	Alan Hughes	1lb 13ozs
13.	Rob Stephens	1lb 10ozs
14.	Dave Clarke	1lb 04ozs 8dr
15.	Dave Finn	1lb 00ozs
16.	Geoff Eley	0lb 12ozs
17.	Gordon McGee	0lb 09ozs
18.	George Callaghan	0lb 08ozs

**INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE POINTS TROPHY**

1.	Phil Allen	20
2.	Martin Hutchens	18
	Justin Mabere	18
4.	Stephen Church	16
5.	Andy Chapman	14
	Graham Hawkins	14
7.	Dave Clarke	12
	Dave Finn	12
9.	Spencer Couzens	10
	Fred Jones	10
	Richard Rosinski	10
12.	George Callaghan	8
	Mick Donahue	8
	Rob Stephens	8
15.	Duncan Bales	6
16.	Tony Tibble	4
17	Alan Hughes	2
	Terry Stretton	2

So, every place is still up for grabs, but can anyone defeat last season's champion Phil Allen?

**Next RDAA match is Sunday 18 August 2024 on the Thames at Wallingford B. Please support this match by booking directly with Mike Sheasby as the Thames is fishing well. Please also book in the normal way for the next Association match on Sunday 1 September 2024 when traditionally the River Kennet starts to come good for the match angler, and the individual trophy standings will change significantly.**