

# Reading & District Angling Association

## Match Scene 8 October to 4 November 2024



### **TUESDAY CLUB KNUCKLE DOWN**

We start with the Tuesday Club's visit to Willmott's Pool on Tuesday 8 October in the second of four visits this month. (see September's Match Scene for the first report). Ten anglers managed to bank what many would describe as a disappointing 220lbs with only John Nicholls managing to get going with a winning weight of 78lbs. Phil Lush was second with a mere 37lbs.

### **LET DOWN BY THE WEATHER**

The problem with being a club that likes to fish river venues on matches is that, when it rains life can be hard, particularly when the river rises. Prestcold's match on the Thames at Northmoor on Sunday 13 October could have been a highlight of the season but the six anglers were greeted by a river that was bank high and fast flowing. Float tactics were abandoned, and no one would have blamed the anglers if they had abandoned the match as well, however, as petrol would have been wasted on the long drive, they persevered using feeder tactics. Geoff Eley managed to tempt five roach and two gudgeon to record a winning weight of 15ozs with Paul Risi second with 4ozs 8dr which comprised three gudgeon and two roach. Both were pegged on the two pegs immediately downstream of the overhead power lines and used maggot feeder with red maggot as hook bait. Only one other angler weighed in. Statistics will show that this was a bad match which is a shame as the venue is very good – so good in fact that big weights were caught on a Division One National some years ago. Don't be put off going there when the river is in better shape.

### **TUESDAY CLUB RETURN**

Undaunted by the disappointing result the previous week, Tuesday Club's visit to Willmott's Pool on 15 October saw even more take to the venue with 13 anglers fishing. The venue seemed to bounce back on this one and the total weight soared to 364lbs. Overall it appears that the fish were more widely distributed too as Richard Rosinski took the honours with 48lbs 12ozs and Phil Lush second again just 2lbs behind.

### **BRAVE CHOICE OF VENUE**

When Newtown booked Salmon Cut A section for a match for Sunday 20 October some (including me!) would consider it to be a brave move. Salmon Cut has not performed well on matches for many years. No one knows why because good returns of big Bream and Perch for the pleasure angler can be made, particularly in winter. Last year one match was held at the venue and only 8ozs were caught. A good turnout of thirteen anglers took part and the total weight of 4lbs 14ozs 4dr, although low, indicates that there could be better times ahead with more fishing and bait entering the water. The winner was Martyn Connolly with 1lb 12zs 8dr with Dave Brooks

second on 9ozs 12dr and Richard Herman third just 12dr behind. Ok not up to Froxfield standards but if the venue could improve it would make a good canal location closer to Reading.

### **SPECIMEN PERCH WINS THE DAY**

On Sunday 27 October Reading Civil Service visited Padworth Canal and as expected the fishing was tough. 7 anglers turned out and between them they managed to deliver 5lbs 3ozs. However, it turned into a red-letter day for Fred Gill. His weight of 1lbs 3ozs of small fish caught on red maggot using pole tactics would have been enough to win the match but he managed to land a magnificent Perch of 3lbs 4ozs as well, which would make the day of any specimen hunter. It left Gordon McGee in second place with 7ozs of roach and Jeff Brown in third with 6ozs of small chub and roach, both also using pole tactics to make up the places as the other four anglers failed to weigh in.



*Fred Gill with his 3lbs 4oz Perch*

### **TUESDAY CLUB FIELD SIXTEEN**

On Tuesday 29 October the Tuesday Club made their fourth visit of the month to Willmott's Pool and this time they filled the venue with 16 anglers. This didn't seem to deter the fish as between them the anglers banked 464lbs in what turned out to be a very close match. Andy Bridge probably thought his 58lbs 10ozs was not enough, but it was as he came first with Ernie Mallion coming a close second with 57lbs 8ozs.

### **FIRST VISIT TO FROXFIELD PROVES FRUITFUL.**

On Sunday 3 November, the RDAA match for the Association Shield was held on the Kennet & Avon Canal at Froxfield. The turnout was impressive with thirty-two anglers taking part and the total weight of 96lbs 8dr was good considering the clear water conditions. However, like last season, anglers drawn below the road bridge on B section struggled and the weights were poor which is a concern. The winner on the day was EC member Andy Chapman with 13lbs 4ozs. Fishing the first peg below the "Gate" on Froxfield "A", (Wides), Section. Andy banked Skimmer Bream to 2lbs 8ozs along with a few Perch using pole tactics, with single red maggot over groundbait with pinkies. Chris Evans was drawn on the first peg upstream of the road bridge and last peg on Froxfield "A",

(Turning Bay), Section. Chris banked mainly Roach along with a few small Skimmer Bream and Perch, fishing whip tactics, feeding groundbait and squat, with single pinkie on the hook to weigh of 11lbs 1oz 8drs to finish second. Paul Mason was third overall. Fishing on the first peg upstream of the overhead power cables on Froxfield "A", (Short Pound), Section. Paul banked mainly Perch along with a few small Skimmer Bream, fishing pole tactics, feeding chopped worm and caster, with single red maggot and worm on the hook for 8lbs. Each of the above won their relevant sections and the section winner on B section (below the road bridge) was Steve O'Keefe with 2lbs 14ozs which was a good return on that section on the day.

The tables are starting to take shape now but still close at the top of the points:-

### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

1. Tilehurst British Legion AS	44lbs 15ozs 8dr
2. YOTAC/21 Club	40lbs 06ozs
3. Reading Civil Service	18lbs 14ozs
4. Prestcold	17lbs 07ozs 8dr
5. Excelsior	13lbs 08ozs 8dr
6. Pangbourne & Whitchurch	12lbs
7. Reading Fishing Club	11lbs 09ozs
8. King Heron	0lbs 08ozs

### INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE WEIGHT TROPHY

1. Andy Chapman	16lbs 00ozs 8dr
2. Chris Evans	11lbs 01ozs 8dr
Graham Hawkins	11lbs 01ozs 8dr
4. George Callaghan	10lbs 09ozs
5. Martin Wickens	9lbs 05ozs
6. Phil Allen	8lbs 08ozs
7. Paul Mason	8lbs 00ozs
8. Martin Hutchins	7lbs 10ozs 8dr
9. Richard Rosinski	7lbs 08ozs
10. Rob Stephens	6lbs 11ozs 8dr
11. Geoff Eley	6lbs 06ozs
12. Justin Mabere	6lbs 05ozs 8dr
13. Steve O'Keefe	6lbs 04ozs
14. Dave Clarke	5lbs 14ozs
Alan Hughes	5lbs 14ozs
16. Gordon McGee	5lbs 08ozs
17. Eddie Chichoki	4lbs 12ozs
18. Tony Tibble	4lbs 09ozs 8dr
19. Duncan Bales	4lbs 07ozs 8dr
20. Ernie Mallion	4lbs 04ozs

### INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE POINTS TROPHY

1. Justin Maber	36
2. Martin Hutchens	28
3. Andy Chapman	26
Graham Hawkins	26
5. Phil Allen	24
George Callaghan	24
7. Dave Clarke	22
8. Richard Rosinski	18
Rob Stephens	18
10. Fred Jones	16
Stephen Church	16
Dave Finn	16
Steve O'Keefe	16
Martin Wickens	16
15. Tony Tibble	12
16. Mick Donahue	10
Spencer Couzens	10
Duncan Bales	10
Chris Evans	10
Gordon McGee	10
Paul Mason	10

**Next RDAA match is Sunday 17 November 2024 on the Thames at Wallingford B. Please support this match by booking directly with Mike Sheasby as the Thames continues to fish well. Please also book in the normal way for the next Association match on Sunday 1 December 2024, at Froxfield. This is the Christmas match which hands out lots of prizes so get booked in early. The canal is fishing well currently.**