

Town star Joe wins world golds!

FORGET all that Olympics hype and big money showmanship – we have world-gold heroes of our own to celebrate!

And typically of angling it is self-funded older geezers doing the business, with town's Joe Roberts – and Terry Lancaster based in nearby Milton Keynes – bringing home the medals.

Along with Dickie Car (London) and Roger Marlow (Leicester) they won the coveted team gold for England in the weekend's world veterans' champs, with Joe taking the top individual medal as well.

Struggling to keep their bait fresh in temperatures up to 100 degrees F on Portugal's river Mondego, they were fishing for tiny barga – averaging just two ounces apiece – while the water, part of a hydro electric scheme, went up and down like a yo-yo.

Over two four-hour matches Joe amassed 14lb to become a double section winner and individual world champ, as Terry finished 5th and 2nd in section for 11th overall.

Joe – now back in Portugal to coach the England ladies in their world clash – had previously gained two world-golds as manager of winning teams.

But now: "At the age of 61 I've finally 'come of age' by winning two as a competitor, and that is only just beginning to sink in... and I'm shattered," he said on Tuesday.

● Much nearer home on Tofts Daventry really took White Hart Flore to the taxidermist in the return leg of their annual derby – for the third year in a row!

On their home water the Dav lads went into the match 48lb in arrears... and came out 414lb ahead as they won the day by 1,487lb to 1,073lb!

And they took all top four individual slots with Pete Palmer 139-4, Dave West 133-10, Ivan Mills 132-12 and Martin Pynter 1274.

● Paynter had already had a 'ton-up' net the day before, when he made second in 'Bucko's' charity qualifier at Dunchurch with 110-8. Top spot in that one had fallen to Gary Envis on 151-11 with Neil Crozier on 105-9.

● Town's Ringer clan could be marching towards another big family pay day as patriarch Geoff has joined son Steve in next month's 'British Waterways' stillwater championships final,

qualifying with 92-6 of BREAM at Blythwaters.

● Following a run of feeder matches, Mick Wheeler was missing his pole fishing and took Mick Hewlett's advice to try Castle Ashby's Scotland pond where he would, he was assured, catch 100lb of bream or more.

"We'd both sunk a few beers so I believed him and went for it next morning," said Wheeler. And in the cold, sober, light of day: "I had 101 bream between 2lb and 4lb each for an estimated 300lb – one of the best day's bream fishing I've ever had."

● Back on the match scene, Kingsmill's Boddington sweep saw Mark Waddhams land 150lb of carp on pellet waggler followed by Gary Abrahams 96lb and Martin Harrington 78lb.

● Towcester's best results in a long time came when they travelled to Flecknoe. Matt Brafield had an all-carp 128-14 with Kevin Elliot 65-9 and Mick Goodridge 57-10 – as 14 rods totalled 615-8... with Tony 'I'm so good' Hirst last on 15lb.

● Paul Ramsden topped Nene's Bishops Bowl points round with 54-11 of carp, well clear of John 'Mr Happy' Balhatchett's 42-2 and Andy Law 31-10.

● With three rounds to go the Castle v Royal Mail Northampton series could still go either way despite the former's 2-1 lead. Sunday's Canons leg went to home-side Castle along with the top two solo spots as Nick Antonnacci netted 54-2, Stuart Cheetham 40lb and Keith Green 39-2.

● At Castle Ashby Dick Rogers won Sundays Grendon open with 51-12 with John Kent on 45-8 and Grant Howie 39-4. The previous day's Brickyard do had seen Ian Hutton with 29-4 to beat Keith Garrett 28lb and Mick Hewlett 27-6. The Grendon midweeker had fallen to Paul Hardman 48-12, ahead of Gary Millward 36-4 and Alan West 21-12.

● Mobbs Miller's Waterloo match saw Mick Dudely out front with 41-15 as Jim Broadbent netted 33-2 and Dave Rawlings 30-9.

● Stanick's fish of the week was Brian Radford's 24-14 common from Elsons, as 'Roman' had a 23.

● Glebe's first visit to Gilmorton turned out to be a tough'un with Pete Males top on 28-7 as Dave Haddon had 15-3 and Marcus Annable 14-8.

● Olney's Ouse match went to Dave Tebbutt with 4-2. Barry Glidewell had 2-11 and Les Wallis 2-9.

● Flore & Brockhall's B'all bridge cut section was in typical heart-breaker mode, Sunday, as Ken Cadd won with 3-6 to beat Rob Rawlings' 2-14 by an Olympic mile (that's how it will sound by the time it reaches their local). Paul Humphries had 2-4.



● JASON Spolton, with one of 12 rainbows to 4-12 on imitation bloodworm fly, is one of those who've been getting some nice bags at Ringstead

FIXTURES

Furzton festival, Aug 22, vets open 01908 565446; disabled open, Aug 24, 01908 608944; Aug 27, bank holiday open 01908 506678.

Aug 25: Newport pits open, 01908 210983.

September 23: county championship, Yelvertoft cut, 01604 755382; also Olney's 60 peg Ouse cup open – £1,200 in cash prizes – 01234 711393.

Matches, catches, even rough patches? If there's a tale to tell call Trevor Johnson on 01908 270000 (office) or 07801 183381 or angling@intermediauk.com (click link to email)