

Good sponsor, good weights and good cause gets £800 as...

Canal roars into gear for charity open

THE good old Stoke Grand Union was in cracking form for Saturday's charity open – with an 18lb top weight and 7lb needed to win all but one section.

On the long pound Dave Abbott, up from Kent to fish with mate Tommy Boyce, poled a runaway win with 18lb of skimmers and perch on double caster and maggot while Boyce, near the over-shot below bottom lock, had 10-1 of prime caster roach.

Towcester's Gren Read had 7-11 and town's Paul Minney 7-9... but the real winner was the M a c m i l l a n Cancer Support charity.

Organised by the Nene and very heavily sponsored by the Navigation at Stoke Bruerne (including breakfast, post-match buffet and evening entertainment all for a tenner entry fee) the 50 pegger raised almost £800 and looks to become an annual event.

● Some 250 miles away in Cornwall, town's Steve Ringer was busy taking runner's up spot – collecting an estimated two grand – in the Whiteacres five-day autumn festival.

● With two rounds down Castle Ashby's 70 peg seven-team six-leg AT silverfish league is already in predictable mode: Starlets first, Maver MK second and Team Guru third. That was the finishing order, again, Sunday. MK's Richard Lattimer won with 58-14 followed by 'Ashby A's Gary Millward 35-14 and Baz Bright (RAF) 27-9.

● Carp and big bream made up Osprey's weights at Lakeside (Duncote) as Gareth Price and Barry Mason tied on 111-10 with Nick Darke on 106-4.

● Stanwick produced at least four 20s this week, led by Chris Knight's 28 common.

● TOWCESTER, Dog Lane: John 'smiler' Balhatchett 100-8, John Broughton 60lb, Kevin Elliott 43lb.

● CASTLE Ashby: midweek, Brickyard and Scotland,

Courtney Hewlett 40lb, Mick Wheeler 38-4 (all roach), Frank Pizmenti 35-12; Saturday, Brickyard, Hewlett 79-8, Chris Garrett 37lb, Damian Green 21-4.

● DAVENTRY, Tofts (amid a cloudburst): Andy Beaumont – his first win with the club – 65-4, Ivan Mills 53lb, Carl Hulley 36-10.

● TOWCESTER vets, midweek, Dog Lane: John Balhatchett 58-3, Mick Boddilly 33-12, Terry Robinson 16-6.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Barby Mill: Trevor Griffiths 36-4, Tom Griffiths 34-8, Dave Chapman 30lb.

● CASTLE, silverfish league second round, Canons: Stuart Cheetham 19-2, Jeff Rice (series leader) 17-4, Fred Prior 10-8.

● FINEDON, Grundys: Dave Ross 17-3, Steve May 9-9, Paul Brand 7-11.

● NENE, Banbury Lane cut: Pete Laughton 16-4, Andy Webster 6-4, Bas Eaton 4-2.

● LITTLE Harrowden, Oundle Nene: Jim Broadbent 10-12

of roach, John Edwards 5-5, Mick Dudley and Alan Edwards both 4-3.

● ABINGTON, Abington Park lake: Andy Weatherley 4-6, Vince Battams 3-6, Russ Coleman 1lb. And if the lake hasn't had enough problems, now some clown appears to have 'added' red signal crays...

● FLORE & Brockhall, Huckerbys: Steve Smith 3-8 (inc a 1-7 roach), Ken Cadd 2-8, Rob Rawlins 1-12 ■



■ **CONCENTRATION:** Town's Chris Howard (foreground) trying to up his catch-rate in Saturday's Stoke canal charity open. Photo: Neil Stafford



■ **STILL** trouting despite the cooling weather. Alan Holmes with 4-12 Ringstead rainbow

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)