

Specimen roach and barbel feed despite rough weather

THE elements may have skipped autumn and gone straight to winter mode... but some great catches are still being made!

On the gale-lashed Ouzel, Sunday, Gary Maton caught what for so many would be the fish of a life-time – the cracking 2-1 roach pictured.

In a short-but-sweet session wandering the bank he had the magic redfin on breadflake, together with some chublets and dace, and was back indoors within a couple of hours. Fast operator our Gary.

■ On the Ouse Steve Bull topped Olney's Two Brewers open with 11lb – including a 5-3 bream – as Ernie Sattler (yet another end peg draw) netted 9-11 of roach with Lee Jones on 9lb of bleak.

■ And TWO double-figure barbel were Adam Short's reward for an after-dark session on the same stretch a few days earlier, with fish of 11-12 (pictured) and 10-5 – a stunning brace for today's upper Ouse!

■ Perch dominated Sunday's Ampthill v Leighton Buzzard match on MKAA's Stony Ouse, with a 14lb top weight.

■ Just downstream Kevin Osborne topped DATS' do on the Main with two 2lb+ perch in his 9-13-8. Alan 'Castlethorpe' Ford had 9-4-8 and Colin Chart 6-3.

■ **The Environment Agency caught well, too – much to local angling's shame. During its continuing local purge, on one day**

alone it found five out of 28 anglers couldn't produce rod licences.

Almost one in five is an appalling result, way above the regional average. And as it was a foul-weather day they were likely hardened

'regulars' on the banks – not once or twice a year 'butterflies' who possibly wouldn't know any better.

Now the law is grinding towards court appearances for the wrong-doers – with potential for fines and costs bills approaching £1,000 for each one found guilty. Serves them right. Licence evasion is cheating all those who do pay.

The EA purge is set to continue, backed by local police involvement.

■ At Lakeside, Towcester, Jeff Dugiud topped Osprey's do with 153-12 – his first-ever 'ton-plus' match catch. Mick Jones had 96-4 and Ian Millin 71-8. The

charity event raised £750 which is set to be matched by McDonalds.

■ Five carp for 59-11 put Tony Borrelli top of Potterspurys local lake charity sweep as Dave Smith caught 39-14 and Les Goodridge 23-8.

■ MK Vets found carp and bream at Canons Ashby. Gary Britton had 72lb, Paul Chapman 34-15 and Charlie Lancaster 32-5.

■ Calvert's Claydon lake match went to Derek Bishop 5-3 ahead of Barry Witteridge 1-13 and John Weatherall 1-4.

■ Linford's Cap'n Morgan canal sweep saw Eamon Burke with 3-6, Mick Hefferon 3-3-8 and John Hough 1-15. Didder Hefferon was hampered throughout the match by a bombardment of 'gale-fall' crabapples landing in his swim!

■ MKAA's Galleon canal junior match saw Adam Dale win with 1lb as Josh Ward had 0-13.

■ **FIXTURES:** Sunday, MKAA club get-together, Stony Ouse, 07703 556788; Nov 9, charity open, Olney Ouse 01234 240061.



● Gary Maton with 2-1 'quickie' Ouzel roach



● 'Adam Short with the 11-12 part of his Ouse golden doubles brace

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