

Proof of just how big alien zander will grow in the canal as...

Lad lands a 'double' from a marina

LIKE it or loathe it the LOCAL Grand Union CAN do double-figure zander – and schoolboy Max Rhodes has proved it!

Out piking with dad Warren he landed it while deadbaiting in a 'Blisworth area' canal marina, a spot where he had previously had perch to 3lb.

Though lacking scales on the day, Warren reckoned it to be: "In the region of 10lb. We've had others before, but nothing as big as this."

Last week's *Chron* story about a guy telling Carpin Capers' Dougie he'd had an 11 near Gayton was met with open disbelief by some. But Max's Z has to be that sort of weight.

And if anyone is thinking it looks big because Max is small...he is 10 years old and, apparently, "the second biggest lad in his class."

Others will, of course, be wondering just how many silverfish the invasive alien species has chomped through to get to these sort of weights.

● Another lad striking it right was Olney junior George Wheeler who bagged a 5-11 Ouse chub on a lure. Somewhat further up the age-scale Adam Short had a 6-10, also at Olney.

● Perhaps unnerved by a member's disqualification two weeks ago Starlets, with England manager Mark Downs on board, crashed and burned in Sunday's Castle Ashby AT league round – finishing joint 4th (fifth on weight!) from seven teams of 10.

Maver MK soared to top on the day (52 points) with Guru on 45, Royal Mail 41 and 'Ashby 'Youth' and Starlets both 40.

But Starlets would really have to foul up the last round to lose their overall lead, and the real battle will be between MK and Guru for runner's-up spot and a place in the regional semis.

RAF's Baz Bright had top weight, 34-10, with 'Mail's Chris Camplin 24-8 and MK's Roger Clutton 15-12.



■ **BEAMING:**
Young Max Rhodes has a smile as big as his monster canal zander



■ **LURED:**
Junior George Wheeler and mint 5-11 Ouse chub caught on a lure

- MEADOWLANDS individual league 3rd round: Ian Lillystone 100-4, Jason Shirley 97-12, Glen Maxwell 90-8.
- WHITE Hart Flore, Lakeside: Doug Goldie 55lb, John Berry 50lb, Dave Griffiths 41-12.
- CASTLE Ashby opens: midweek, Scotland pond, Joe Roberts 14-15, Keith Bishop 13-6, Andy Jones 12-4; Saturday, Brickyard, Ian Hutton 25-4, Chris Garrett 24lb Courtney Hewlett 21lb.
- TOWCESTER vets, Silverlake: John Balhatchett 17-11, Gerald Green and Mick Read both 7-1.
- CASTLE silverfish league, Canons top: Ivor Stokes 15-4, Bob Spencer 15lb, Bob Moore 11-12.
- COUNTY vets, Canons bottom: Pat Neale 13-14, Nick Antonacci 12-10, Alf Gillard 12-8.
- NENE, Newton Blossomville Ouse: Andy Webster 9-6 (inc a 3-4 perch), Pete Laughton 5-4, Brian Beard 4-1.
- TOWCESTER, Tove: Mick Goodridge 3-11, Mick Boddilly 1-14, Tosh Saunders 0-4.
- FLORE & Brockhall, diamond bridge cut: Rob Rawlins 3lb (really?), Paul Humphries 1-13, Gareth Abrahams 0-13.
- **FIXTURES:** Sunday, Nene canal league starts, teams & individuals welcome, 01604 587382 ■

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)