

James rings the bait changes for success with winter carp!

GALES, hail and pouring rain...another rubbish week for most – but that didn't stop James Peskett getting among the carp in Linford's Parc Farm One.

Pictured, he had five fish, including a 25 and a 22, in eight hours by casting tight up to an overhanging tree and going through every bait in his box until he found what the fish wanted. That turned out to be a grain of corn paired with an artificial one and fished over a handful of free offerings.

■ Risk of accidentally losing tackle on an over-hanging tree or bush on Teardrops 1 and 2 has been greatly reduced.

Parks Trust contractors have opened up the snaggiest swims which, in the worst places, involved removing some substantial boughs from various 'self-set' bankside trees (pictured).

The work was carried out at the request of MKAA to benefit the majority of those who fish the lakes, and it should be several years before the over-growth gets out of hand again.

■ Yet another win for in-form Kevin Osborne – that was the MKAA winter league second round flooded off the river and onto the Bletchley boatyard cut.

Olney's star clocked up 8lb of caster roach to leave Ernie Sattler (Vets+one) trailing on 5-15 as Maver MK's James Mead made third with 4-5.

Vets+one were top on the day and lead the league, with two rounds to go, on 34 points. Maver have 25 and Ampthill 22.

■ Midweek saw Dennis Woodcock, reporting through Willards, fishing punch on Brad'll canal to net slabs of 4lb and 3lb plus a raft of roach. Another customer had perch on the flooded Ouse at Stony – and what he can only describe as something looking like a 'baby catfish' six or seven inches long...

■ Gonefishin facebook page correspondent Paddy 'hook-pull' Sheehan landed three Furzton carp to 19-8 and lost one, while Sean Cahill had a 10lb pike from Newport's Suntrap pit.



● James Peskett with Parc Farm mid 20

■ OSPREY, Pidley pit, Hunts: Darren Cannock 54lb, Nick Darke 41lb, Matt Grant 39lb.

■ TOWCESTER vets, Astwell Mill: Gerald Green 14lb (three skimmers and a load of roach) John Balhatchett 8-14, Walt Ashby 6-14.

■ MK VETS, Galleon Strait: Paul Chapman 5-8, Austin Maddock and Dave McLennan both 4-15.

■ TOWCESTER, Wappenham Water: George Cooke 5-8 (two bream), Mick Goodridge 3-4, Tony Hirst 3lb.

■ OLNEY, Knight Shield, Ouse: Steve Glidewell 0-14 (and won the annual points series), Barry Glidewell 0-9 (including a four-and-a-half ounce roach which won the 'big fish' trophy), Pete Hawley 0-4.

■ BUT others DID do worse. Calvert's brave crew finished their Hill Cottage Farm match without a bite between them. Anyone for tennis, or golf, or scrabble, or...

■ **FORTHCOMING events:** Saturday, the Tackle Hub, Victoria Road, Bletchley, opens; Monday, Beacon AC AGM 7.30pm, Inn in the Park, Mount Farm, Bletchley; Feb 16, Olney open, 01234 240061.



● Welcome relief: opening up swims on Teardrop 1

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)