

When the going gets REALLY tough...the vets will be there!

ENDURING pouring rain since the turn of the year, those eventuring onto the banks last week were hit by howling gales as well!

And on Wednesday, probably the roughest of the lot, MK vets once again proved that when it comes to braving the foulest of weather – AND catching fish – they are the kiddies to beat!

Pegged on the cut at Baileys, with nowhere to hide from the storm, they managed to record highly respectable weights with John Hewison out front on 6-10 of perch, skimmers and roach. Bob Gale had 5-10, narrowly beating John Harvey's 5-7.

■ The same awful day, tucked away from the worst of the lashing rain under the A5D bridge at Simpson, even I did my bit for Oldy Pride by winking out a few perch.

■ And it was little better on Saturday when, with Towcester's Astwell Mill brim-full of cold run-off, Mike Sando persevered to get a dozen pinkie roach before, missing the edge of the platform, ending up waist deep in water at just 3 degrees Celcius.

He's still not sure whether he enjoyed his outing or not...

■ But it was different story on sunny Sunday on the same venue when, the level having dropped a bit, Mick Goodridge made it three

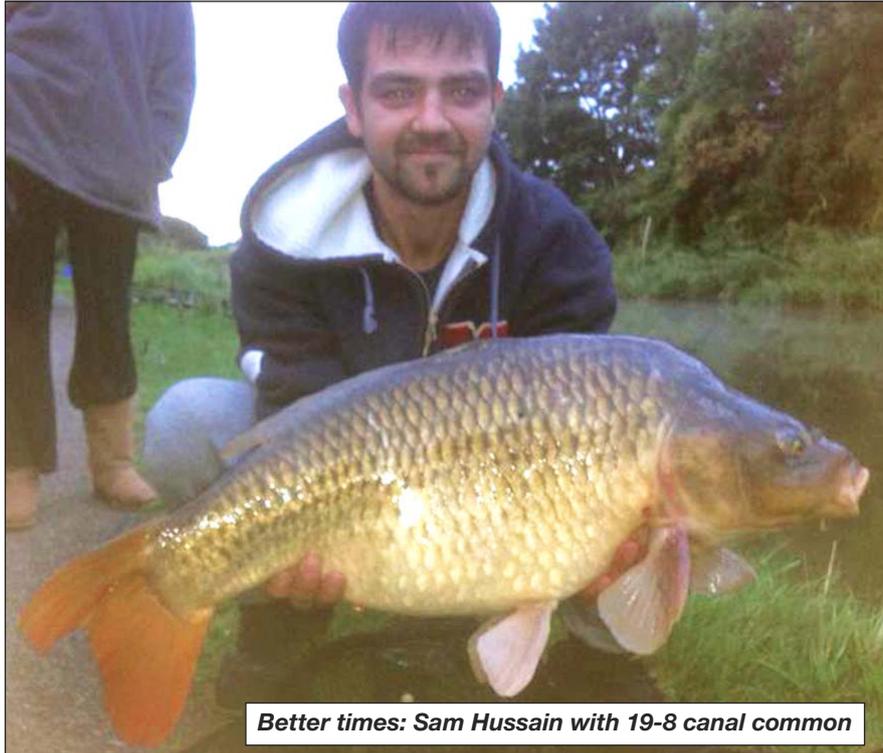
Towcester wins in a row with 10lb of class roach and skimmers. Tosh Saunders had 2-12.

■ The Tove pouring into the cut at Stoke Bruerne hampered DATS do on the Navvi big bend where Paul Chapman won with 6-13-8 of skimmers followed by Nigel Steele 4-2-8 and John Harvey 1-0-12.

■ Calvert tried Hill Cottage Farm, again, where two carp saw Derek Bishop finish with 5-4. John Hewison had one for 2-6 and Mark Penwell another for 1-8.

■ Reporting through GoneFishin Sean Cahill has had 17 pike to low doubles in two weekend trips to Emberton Park.

■ However depressing the weather and poor results may be, don't start selling your kit just



Better times: Sam Hussain with 19-8 canal common

yet...better times could soon be here! Sport like that enjoyed by Sam Hussain (pictured) who, reported through the Tackle hub, had this superb 19-8 common from the cut near Pink Punters late last year...only a handful of months after taking up the sport.

■ Remember Northampton specimen group chairman Tony Gibson, who a decade back won both the Drennan AND Fox national cups in the space of 14 months? He and others are putting on a show at Sandy in aid of a cancer charity on Monday evening. Tickets on 01767 683149.

■ ANNUAL meetings: Pulman AC, 8pm, Wednesday, Bletchley Conservative Club; Towcester & DAA, March 19, 8pm, town Football Supporters Club; MKAA, April 2, MK Irish Club, Bletchley.