

Golden oldies + one storm to league title win on cut!

THAT is it – case proven: when it comes to winter canal fishing the old guys are the ones to beat!

Pushed into second on the day in Sunday's Bletchley boatyard length final MKAA winter league round, MK Vets+one still cantered home with a seven point series lead over youthful runners-up Maver MK.

And the cut again proved itself a premier winter fishery – producing an AVERAGE of 4-2-8 per man across the 20 peg match!

Kingfishers' Keith Harrison was top rod on the day with 9-8 of roach on dead red maggot, as Vets' Paul Chapman had 7-13-8 (skimmers) and Maver's Steve Rose 6-4.

Vet Ernie Sattler snuck-up on Kevin Osborne in the series individual stakes to tie on 18 points and win on weight with 33-3-8 to 25-2.

League: Vets+one 64 points, Maver 57, Kingfishers 43, Olney 41, Amphill 36.

■ Fresh from falling into Astwell Mill last week, Mike Sando (pictured by me) tried the Tove at Towcester, Friday, and using manky left-over bait had a 1-2 roach and a 1-13 perch from a bridge hole.

I blanked at the next peg... but a quarter mile upstream Mick Goodridge got stuck in with caster and bread – netting five chub and a shoal of dace for 18lb or so.

■ Another who couldn't wait to get at the settling rivers was Trevor Ray who, naturally reporting through brother Tim's Willards Tackle, had two 5lb chub from Stone Park on bread and worm.

■ And over at Newport, on Riverside, Dave Adams bagged 20lb of roach and dace on the tip – proving his reactions are still pretty sharp...especially for an oldie!

■ Carp have been moving on Lodge with Craig Hamp (pictured by bailiff Ian Pledger) netting this 17-8 'ghostie' while fellow dayticket rod 'Olly' Cooper had an 18-pounder.

■ Also at Lodge, the Parks Trust has removed a fallen tree that was blocking off a prime swim on the small pond. Thanks guys.

■ Willen's pike have been feeding in the slightly warmer

conditions and James Worsdale, 11, had an 11-8 on herring before, next day, his dad landed an 18...which promptly bit him! Bailiff Mike Reveler reports that another rod had three between 14 and 24lbs on lure.



● Mike Sando with cracking Tove roach and perch brace

■ Osprey's Lakeside do went to Darren Cannock with 132lb (carp) as Steve Potter had 91lb and Bill Boyne 76lb.

■ Towcester's Wappenham Water match was a walk-over for John Broughton with 25lb of carp and skimmers. Les Goodridge had 5-12 of roach and Tony 'one rig' Hirst 4-8.

■ MK vets' Mill Road cut sweep fell to Ernie Sattler (no surprise there, then?) with a 14-13 bream net

as Dave McLennan had 6-13 and Ron Dorrell 4-13.

■ Olney Ouse knock-up: bream to 6-12 landed as Mick Burrell had 8-3, Nigel Porter 7-6 and Paul Caton 2-7.

■ Towcester vets, Castlethorpe canal: John Balhatchett 6-12 (147 fish), Mick Read 6lb, Gerald Green 5-1.

■ Fixtures: Saturday, Olney Ouse charity open, 01234 240061.



● Craig Hamp with picture-perfect 17-8 Lodge ghostie. Pic by Ian Pledger

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)