

Abington Park Angling Club group's efforts...

To give park lake new life pay off!

A WATER reborn – and fast becoming a real Angling jewel in the heart of town. That's Abington Park Lake!

Not so long ago the effects of fish theft, cormorants, neglect, and the arrival of red signal crays had seen it slip right off most people's radar.

But a small group of enthusiasts in Abington AC refused to write-off the once prolific fishery, and began putting their time and backs into its restoration.

Stocking, clean-ups, and building relationships with the council, local police, the Environment Agency, wildlife interests and others were all part of their year-long campaign.

Now, as reported in this column in recent weeks, 30 to 40lb bream and tench bags with occasional carp to low doubles, are regularly being made.

One of those involved, Vince Battams, had nine slabs for 41lb on his latest trip while Andy Weatherly had six bream and tench for 31lb in a short session.

Season and daytickets are available in local tackle shops and on the bank.

Vince (07769 978470) said: "It has become a pleasure to fish there, again. It's been well worth the effort – though we will make it better still."

● STANWICK has been serving up a feast of 20s and near-20s with the biggest of the week (29-12) falling to Samantha Hoskins on Elsons where Mark Pitchers came close with a 29. Lee Currie did three nights on Mallard and had a 21, five 19s and three 18s among his 22 fish while Jason McKay had eight to 26 and Gavin Walding four to 21lb. Steve Wade had a 27 from the fishery's Kislingbury syndicate water.

● SUNDAY's gales did not stop White Hart Flore finding fish at Tofts where Tom Griffiths won with 85lb ahead of Keith Bishop and Rupert Wykham – both on 76lb.

● CASTLE Ashby opens: Midweek, Brickyard, Frank

Pizamenti 36-4, Mick Smith 34-8, Bob Reed 32-1; Saturday, Brickyard, Pete Lovell 92-8, Chris Garratt 44-4, Mick Whaddham 28-4; Sunday, Grendon, Garratt 84-8, Richard Dunkley 54-4, Mick Hewlett 28-1.

● BARSTON open: Tony Wickham 54-2, Wayne Sharman 52-14, Ben Taylor 44lb.

● COUNTY vets midweek, Canons: Bob Spencer 46-4, Paul Lafflin 36-2, Alf Gillard 35-8.

● FINEDON, Peatling Parva: Mark Clement 48-4, Bill Boyne 42-11, Dave Ross 40-12.

● TOWCESTER, Bairstows: Simon Cordingley 16lb, Bob Eales 11-8, Brian Beard 6-8.

● DAVENTRY, Tofts: Kevin Green 14-9, Sam Wadson 14-2, Phil Wntle 12-10.

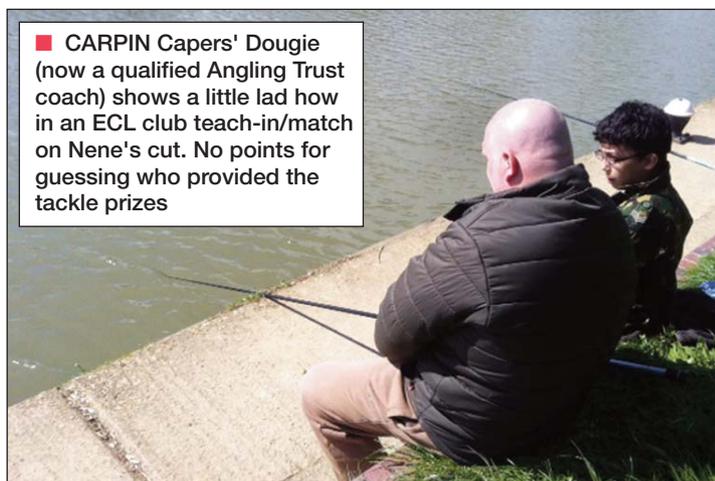
● FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Mill: Steve Smith

12lb, Kelly Humphries 11lb, Paul Humphries 10lb.

● FIXTURES: Saturday, Shearsby Valley Lakes, Bucko charity match and May 24, Tofts, Terrie Tapp memorial, call 07808 512917 ■



■ **HAPPY** lad! Abington AC's Rob Wilson had his first ever 20 – part of an 80lb catch – when he fished Biggin Lake, Oundle, for the first time. Pic Vince Battams



■ **CARPIN** Capers' Dougie (now a qualified Angling Trust coach) shows a little lad how in an ECL club teach-in/match on Nene's cut. No points for guessing who provided the tackle prizes

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)