

Men at work down under as local pair go on a 'proper boys' adventure'

A DIFFERENT world – on the other side of the planet! That was the week (or three) that was for Des Butcher and Tim Walden.

Perhaps finding the local scene a little hum-drum, the 'dynamic duo' did what guys of a certain age often do...and embarked on a "proper boys' adventure."

Ignoring cracks about mid-life crisis, they headed for the western coast of Australia, and three weeks enjoying the fishing trip of a lifetime.

Des, pictured right with a 30lb fly-caught queen fish, said: "We caught 25 different species on fly, lures and baits – including four species of shark to 270lb and barracuda to 40lb.

"Apart from one (very expensive) charter trip all our fishing was shore-based. Consequently we hooked a number of fish which headed for India – and we couldn't stop them!"

■ MUCH nearer home, on Fenny cut, seven-year-old Mel Cooper, pictured below, landed a 1-7 roach on corn and feeder while out with dad, Beacon secretary Steve. Not bad...how many old geezers have yet to catch a canal roach that size after a life time of trying?

■ REPORTING through Willard's Beth Hinchcliffe had her first carp, a 5lb mirror (probably one of those stocked by MKAA two to three years ago) from the cut at Bradwell, and then two tench to 3-1 next time out.

■ FRESH back from holiday Steve Wells was straight on to his favourite Whittings Ouse

stretch, getting pike to 6lb and a 2-8 perch on spinner.

■ CHERRY-flavoured boilie brought Anthony Overton a 29-4 Furzton common.



● Roving rod Des Butcher with queen fish caught on fly 'down under'

■ MARSH club had a ball on Alders as Troy Hillyer topped their do with 271lb of carp followed by Keith Ashby 254lb and Vic Nugent 235lb.



● Mel Cooper (age 7) with 1-7 canal roach

■ GONEFISHIN are still riding high in the MKAA summer league, 8 points clear of Tackle Hub Gold with one round to go. Sunday's Furzton leg saw Maver Black top on 32 with GF on 28 and TH Gold 24.

GF's Martin Greene had top spot, 40-4 of bream, ahead of 'Black's Steve Row (three section wins in three rounds) 31lbs and 'Black's Ian Smith 30-7.

■ TOWCESTER, Canons top: Andy Jones 53lb, John 'the vicar' Broughton 39-4, Tosh Saunders 38-12.

■ DATS, evening league, Lodge: Roy Hefferon 38-13-4 (eight bream), Phil Bardell 20-15, Ernie Sattler 7-7. Two rounds left and it is all between Sattler and Richard Lattimer.

■ CALVERT, Claydon Lake: Jim Lewis 27-9 (inc a 19-4 carp), Dave Lewis 14-2, Ted Brown 12-6.

■ MK vets, Brackley lake, midweek: John Weatherall 12-5, John Hewison 11-5, Steve Chilton 10-12.

■ OLNEY, Ouse: Barry Glidewell 5-14, Pete Hawley 5-7, Graham Prince 4-12.

■ FIXTURES: Sunday, Newport river open, 07795 068428; Tuesday and Aug 16, Olney river opens, 01234 240061.

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)