

A weekend of frantic angling 'premiership' match action brings...

Medals galore for town 'glory boys'

NORTHAMPTON'S wave of top angling honours just seems to keep surging on and on – at home and away.

And match-aces Phil Wintle and Joe Roberts have boosted the collection by bringing national and international honours back to the county in the same 48-hours.

At 'home' Phil Wintle was runaway winner – 2 kilo clear – of Saturday's 420 peg Division 1 AT National Championships with 18 kilo of bream from the tidal Trent at Besthorpe while out for Maver Milton Keynes AA, who finished 28th (Wellingborough 26th) from 42 in the team stakes.

And that HAD to be the equivalent of lightning striking twice in the same place...as he'd also won the Division 3 back in '88 while fishing with Towcester.

Away – almost 1,000 miles away in Rome – on the same day town's Joe Roberts was collecting team silver and a section-winner's gold (Newport Pagnell's Terry Lancaster also gaining team silver) with England in the World Veterans' Champs.

For Phil, taking time out from his local Wintle Heating & Plumbing family firm: "It was the day everything went right for a change. I got to my peg, saw bream rolling, and immediately knew what I would do."

Feeding heavily, he went out with maggots and worm on three-ounce feeder to net 12 bream to 6lb plus bits – but his individual crown, section winner's medal and some £2,500 payout, all came down to the final 10 minutes during which he landed 5 kilo.

For Joe, fishing in a team managed by matchfishing legend Dick Clegg OBE, it really was a championship of two halves. With the Tiber rising and falling thanks to a hydro-electric plant upstream, day one saw him with a particularly rubbish draw and 0.7 kilo – "I lost 32 hooks, four rigs, and a complete elastic on the rocks!"

But day two was a different story as he won his section with 2.490 kilo of barbel, skimmers, chublets and carasso, a variety of carp.

Italy won – realistically no one was going to beat them at home – with England just two points adrift and nine points ahead of bronze medalists Hungary.

● STANWICK produced well over a dozen 20s this week, led by Tom Clarke's 26 from Elsons.

● SEVEN Acres fishery near Towcester is up for lease, call Frank 07802 425244.

● BUCKO's charity bash, Tofts: Martin Paynter 151-10, Ray Harris 141-15, Lloyd Hayes 139-14.

● TOWCESTER vets, Flecknoe: John Balhatchett 112-7, Gerry Green 75-4, Ron Collins 71-2.

● CASTLE, Canons top: Pat Neale 112-2, Nick Antonacci 110lb, Bob Spencer 67-12.

● ROYAL Oak, Makins: Wayne Sharman 69-12, Phil Hull 65-4, Jason Shirley 60-6.

● COUNTY vets, Canons: Fred Prior 57-12, Pat Neale 40-8, Dave Cantrell 37-8.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Banks: Jim Tanser 55lb, Rob Rawlins 28lb, Ken Cadd 17lb.

● CASTLE Ashby, Brickyard:

Courtney Hewlett 48-12, Frank Pizamenti 46-4, Keith Garrett 30lb.

● MOBBS Miller, Stretton Lake: Jeff Broadbent 36-8, Ken Taylor 34-7, Stan Atter 34lb.

● TOWCESTER, Bairstows: Les Goodridge 16-12, Bob Eales 11-4, John Balhatchett 7lb.

● NEWPORT open, Ouse: all silvers, Paul Caton 16-4, Mick Burrell 15-10, Mick Stanley 15-5.

● FIXTURES: Furzton Festival opens, Wednesday August 20 Vets 01908 565446, 22nd disabled 01908 608944, 24th float-only and 25th Frank Swan memorial both 01908 313158.

Aug 16: Bucko's charity open Holly Farm 01327 351780. Aug 23: Newport river open 07795 068428 ■



■ **DOUBLE National champ Phil Wintle** (pic by Michael Buchwalder) and (inset) **JOE Roberts - world vets team silver**

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)