

Is local Ouse about to come good after two bad winters on the trot?

JUDGING by the way the local Ouse is picking up, some seriously good river fishing could be just around the corner...

Silver-fishing on the upper river – already good two months back – seems to have been improving further still week by week, with the odd lump also being caught where people can find them between weed beds.

Newport's latest match fell to Alex Graham with 16-13 (mainly roach) ahead of Gary Spavins 16lb and Dave Tebbutt 13-1 – the latter has been catching young barbel between 8 and 12 ounces on an MKAA section, surely a really good omen?

On Ravenstone Dean Niven (pictured right) has bagged a 5-10 chub while along at Olney Dave Thompson had a 6lb PB on float-fished paste with Keith Mitchell getting a 6-8 bream. There are rumours of an 8lb barbel back of Bradwell, but currently it is just rumour.

■ LODGE Lake came up trumps for Brian Brooks – reporting through Willards – when he had a bonanza catch estimated as in excess of 100lb...168 fish including bream to 4lb and roach to 1-4. All on the pole! Some youngsters have been doing well there, too.

■ KINGFISHER AC did well on Furzton, Sunday, less than a week after the lake hosted four MK Festival opens in six days. Ten rods shared over 170lb with Austin Maddock on 25-3, Mircea Perederu 23-8 and Colin Chart 20-11.

Formerly Royal Mail, Kingfisher is a club on the up, trebling its membership over two years – no mean feat in the current environment for a group with no water.

■ OSPREY had a two-day out-of-town carp fest at Decoy with

day-one going to Mark Carter 110lb, 'Stan' on 97lb and Pete Carter 68lb while John Cosby topped day two with 137lb ahead of Ian Millin 100lb and Julie Briscoe 78lb.

■ BREAM dominated last week's Festival matches on Furzton:



● Dean Niven with Ravenstone 5-10 chub

Ken Ball Memorial Vets match, Eddie Ford 37-11, Ray Barker 31-6, Maurice Williams 25-11 – all three pictured – (Ted Brown, now 84, 5th with 20-11); GoneFishin 'float only' Tony Morretti 36-4, Steve Wroe 33-7, Phil Bardell 27-9; Frank Swan Memorial Graham West 48-7, Martin

Greene 46-10, Gary Underwood 41-3.

■ TOWCESTER vets, Wappenham Water: George Cooke 75-8, Simon Cordingly 39-2, Chris Howard 29-11.

■ MK vets, Brackley Lake: Paul Barnes 20-2, Austin Maddock 19-13, Dudley Frankland 17lb.



● MK Festival star vets: Ray Baker, Eddie Ford and Mo Williams – pic by John Hewison

■ DATS v Calvert, Calverton Road Ouse: Alan Ford 17-14 of perch Ernie Sattler 8-5 Lee Jones 6-1, a DATS' walk-over.

■ TOWCESTER, Bairstows, silverfish: Dave Martin 11lb, John Balhatchett 9-8, Darren Pannell 8lb.

■ CALVERT, Claydon Lake: Dave Lewis 10-8, Barry Witteridge 6-11, Ted Brown 4-5.

■ LINFORD, 'wilderness' canal: Eamon Burke 7-14, John Hough 1-12, Mick Hefferon 0-12.

■ FIXTURES: Saturday, Newport Ouse open 07795 068428; Tues Sep 16 Olney Ouse open 01234 240061; Sep 21, Citizen Cup

open, Olney Ouse – top-spot £500 plus cash for other places (all monies paid out as prizes) 60 tickets only from Two Brewers, Olney, 01234 711393.

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)