

For many it was a sorry case of 'one fish or bust' matches

WHAT a dour old week that was – often with just one fish enough to win a match, or making all the difference between winners and also-rans.

The river was a great colour but a foot up, running fast and cold enough to shrivel a maggot within seconds when Dennis Walden (pictured) netted a 5-13 Whittings chub to win White Hart's match.

Ray Goulding had two smaller chub and a handful of bits while pole-fishing a slack for 5-8, and Barry Neal showed his class with 4-7-8 on the stick as the top six totalled 24-1-8.

■ AND just one fish, a 2-9 perch, put Graham Clipson top of Olney's Knight Shield on the Weston Road Ouse, with Paul Caton second with a 1-9 stripey.

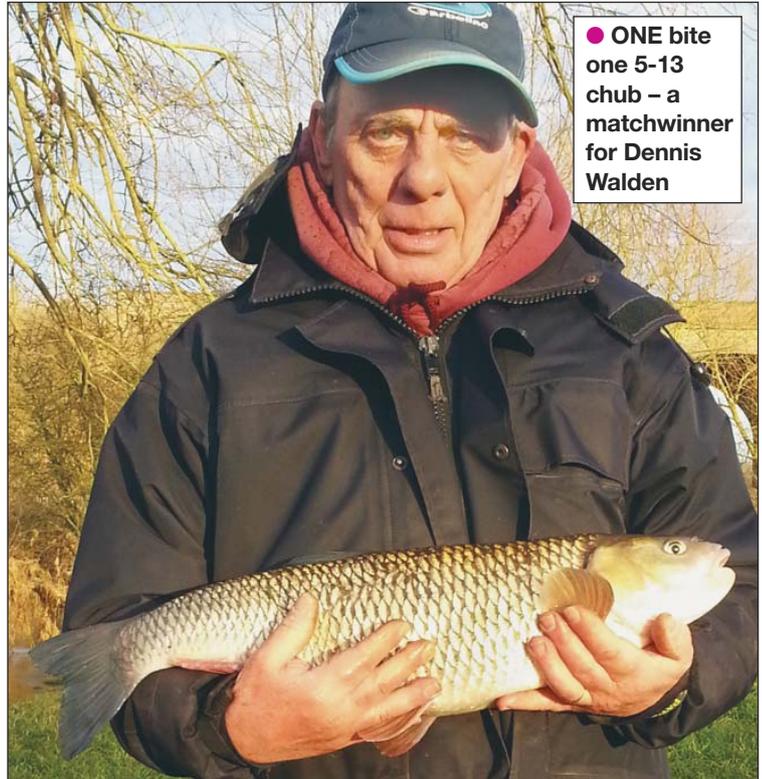
Pete Hawley spirited a score of tiny bits from a quiet spot for third with 1-0-8 – and won the club's annual points series with a record tally!

■ FISHING Calvert's Buckingham Town Ouse sweep Charlie Green would have tied for top spot with wife Dawn...but snaffled a bonus 4lb chub to win the 'golden peg' with 6-1. That's where his luck ran out as it was the first week of the series and there was only a fiver in the kitty! Austin Maddock had 0-11.

■ BITES were a shade easier to come by for some in MKAA's winter league second leg on Toombes' Meadow and Hollands as Tackle Hub's Roger Tebbutt had 9-2 of perch, roach and skimmers near the bridge.

Two pegs upstream Amphill's Don King had 6-8-8 of stripeys with Olney's Paul Hamilton netting 6-1-8 from the back straight. 'Hub won on the day and have a three point series lead.

■ JOHN Balhatchett



● ONE bite one 5-13 chub – a matchwinner for Dennis Walden



● ANOTHER one-fish matchwinner – Graham Clipson with 2-9 perch

must have thought he was on a flyer when he drew the peg, in Towcester's Tove do, which gave him a 17lb perch net win back in November – but this time he didn't have much to smile at, failing to weigh in. Les Goodridge had 7-8 of perch, bro Mick 5-10 of roach and George Cooke 3lb.

■ MK Vets' Riverside Ouzel midweeker fell to Ernie Sattler with 6-6 as Dave McLennan had 6-1 and John Weatherall 4-15.

■ TOWCESTER Vets' Blisworth canal match saw Chris Howard with 6-5 of skimmers with Grenville Reed on 3-12 and John Balhatchett 3-11.

■ A 4-13 pike was enough to win Olney's Ouse predator match for Adam Short with Robin Mynard on 3-5 and Kevin Lake 1-10.

■ FIXTURES: Sunday Olney Ouse open (and Feb 15) 01234 240061; Monday, Beacon AGM, 7.30pm, Inn on the Lake; Sat Feb 7 forget Tear Drops for fishing – 2,000 cross country runners expected; Feb 8 national pike fishing champs round, Willen Lake; Feb 18 Pulman AGM 8.30pm, Con Club, Bletchley.

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)