

Long-awaited - but brief - wet spell brings new life to river...

THOUGH unwelcome to many, last week's long-awaited burst of rain started to put some new colour - and life - into the local Ouse!

Following months in the doldrums, sport began perking up along the upper reaches for match and leisure anglers alike.

Things had begun looking up with Wednesday's MK Vets' do on DATS' Stony Main which saw Pete Hawley win with 16-10 of perch to 2-11, and chub, with Alan Ford on 12-8 and Dave Ridgeway only two ounces adrift on 12-6.

■ AND Olney's Royal British Legion Cup, Saturday, went to Lee Jones with 13-7 as he pole-fished worm to land fish including a 5lb bream and a 4lb tench.

Paul Caton had a 2-3 perch in his 11-10 followed by Jan Cebula on 8-10 and Steve Bull 7-7 - and back-up weights were significantly better than four days earlier when Pete Hawley had won the Tuesday open with 10-2.

■ NEW colour in the water and a tad of increased flow had roach, perch and dace well on feed for Sunday's Nene-Towcester sweep, downstream at Newton Blossomville.

And John 'smiler' Balhatchett made the most of it to win with 18-4...almost twice the weight of runner-up Matt Webb who had 9-15. Brian Beard had 9-8.

■ ON the big fish front Graham Collins netted a 6-11 Adams Mill chub while 'Adam' - reporting through Willards - had fish of 6-2 and 5-8 on Newport's river.

■ OTHERS were not so lucky...and Calvert's do on the Ouse at Buckingham went to Tony Richardson with 2-9 as Charlie Green had 1-14 and Derek Bishop 1-7...while Steve

Funnell won Linford's Calverton Road Ouse knock-up with 2-12. Mick Hefferon had 1-14 with Ron Dorrill and John Hough both on 0-12.

■ **GOOD news for MKAA members looking for some river a bit wider and deeper than that around Stony and Wolverton - the association has just gained a stretch of Ouse at**

Harrold (no daytickets).

Vacant for years past (since the big CEMEX sell-off) it had previously been jointly tenanted by MKAA, Wellingborough and CEMEX's commercial 'club'. Now MKAA is back with exclusive control.

■ **TOVE Valley Match group, Lakeside: Phil**

Bardell 50-9, Ian Smith 46-12, Martin Harrington 42-14.

■ **FIXTURES:** Sat, free fly-fishing taster, Pitsford reservoir - gear and tuition supplied 07794 465607; Sun, Newport/MKAA golden peg match, Sherington Bridge 01234 713144; Tues Nov 17, Olney Ouse open 01234 240061.

Sat Nov 22, British Pike Champs qualifier, Bradwell Lake 07952 812527; Wed Nov 25, Angling Trust MK Regional Forum (free entry) Manor Fields Irish Club, 7pm, all anglers welcome, kelvinallen@btinternet.com



■ **LOOKING** like a bar of gold this 13-9 'ghostie' is one of a string of carp to 23lb Richard Purnell has been catching from Furzton



■ **ASSOCIATION** secretary Kevin Osborne on MKAA's new Harrold Ouse section

Matches, catches, even rough patches? If there's a tale to tell call Trevor Johnson on 01908 270000 or 07801 183381 or email angling@intermediauk.com (click link to email)