

# It takes a special breed to keep toughing it out this time of year

**HATS off to the hardy crew who have been toughing it out on gale-lashed local waters to catch a string of hard-fighting carp.**

Among them, Steve Arrand came up with a 22lb mirror. And Martin Tilley – having set up in the dark – looked in for a blank until, after 13 bite-less hours on Furzton, he banked the 20-4 pictured.

On the same water sitting it out for 29 long hours in howling winds and pouring rain was compounded, for Richard Purnell, by falling over in the mud! But, he posted on facebook: 'Happy days. I'm still smiling – four stunning commons, biggest 17-5.'

■ THE weather may not have been much better for his trip, but at least David Stuart German didn't have to sit it out in a bivvy as he stalked the Ouzel for a string of perch to 2lb+.

■ FISHING Olney Mill on the Ouse Bob Cooke landed a 2-15 stripey – having had even bigger river perch this season.

■ FEEDER-fishing dead maggots on Willen, Arthur Terrill thought he was on for a blank – until a 6lb pike grabbed his size 14 on the retrieve.

■ CANAL River Trust fisheries boss John Ells was on the local cut this week: making a website video called 'Slow your pace – share a space' intended to encourage boaters, cyclists and anglers to cause each other less grief. Sounds good...now to include the dog walkers.

■ OSPREY's match on Pidley went to Kevin Watkins with 62lb of carp on big bread punch. Tony McGregor had 51lb using similar tactics while Steve Carthy used maggot and bread for 56lb.

■ AMPHILL's Gayhurst Ouse – deeper and slower than most local stretches – match fell to Steve 'in the afternoon' Wright with 15lb as Kevin Osborne netted 11-8.

■ PERCH made up most weights in Towcester Vets' Stony Main midweek, with Les

Goodridge leading the field on 8-15. John Balhatchett had 8-8 and Graham Martin 5-1.

■ MK Vets' do on Newport's Riverside Ouzel saw Austin Maddock net 8-12 – narrowly beating Ron Dorrrill, 8-8, who in turn just shaded Tony Richardson, 8-7.



■ ENDURING howling winds and rain brought Martin Tilley this 20-4 Furzton common

■ IT was a runaway win for Ray Golding in White Hart's Brush Mill Ouse as he included three 1lb+ perch in a net totalling 7-15, all on stick-floated chopped worm. Mick Elsom had 2-13 and Jeff Byron 2-12

■ ON the Tove 'back of the school', Towcester and the Nene's joint do ended with John Balhatchett on 4-11 followed by Tosh Saunders 4-6 and Tony Hirst 3-10.

■ CALVERT's Buckingham Ouse match went to Bruce 'funky moped' Harvey with 3-7 – well ahead of Tony Richardson 2-8 and Dave Lewis 0-13.

■ FIXTURES: Saturday, MKAA Xmas match, Ouse around Stony, tickets in local shops until THIS evening.



■ DAVID Stuart German with 2lb-plus Ouzel perch

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](mailto:angling@intermediauk.com) (click link to email)