

Following discovery of more thieves' nets, clubmen mount...

24-hour guard on lake!

FURIOUS club members are mounting round-the-clock guard on Abington Park Lake - desperate to stop fish thieves emptying their only water!

Following last year's restocking thousands-of-pounds-worth of fish - those still there - are at risk from night-time raids.

The Environment Agency moved in to help on Tuesday, dragging the lake to remove any more illegal, fish-killing, gill-nets hidden beneath the surface.

And this morning Abington AC members were due to meet with police, and lake owners Northampton Borough Council, in a council of war.

Long suspecting their lake was being systematically plundered, club members' worst fears were confirmed (last week's column) when they found a gill-net with a live 6lb carp trapped in it - but then TWO more nets were found...and the EA has since recovered yet another pair!

Abington committee man Vince Battams said: "We're angry and frustrated. It's sickening that they are doing so much damage after all the work everyone, including the park ranger, has put in on lake restoration.

"But no way will we be driven off the water by these thieves. We will get through it somehow - and do our best to see them behind bars where they belong."

● STANWICK has been on the boil again with Bradley Wegner getting six carp to 30-4 from Elsons, while Gilders' Pete Dixon had a 26-4 and Harry Young a 24. At least three other 20s were landed on the complex this week.

● NICE change for a club to be starting-up instead of folding. This week SAS AC (it signifies Sports and Social...not the 'Who Dares, Wins' guys) was formed from the remains of the Little Harrowden and Mobbs Miller crews and fished Castle Ashby

Brickyard. Neil Wooding had 55lb, Stuart Cheetham 35lb and Stan Atter 24-4.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Tofts: Trevor Griffiths 146lb, Tony Ward 96lb, Paul Jackson 90-8.

● FERRY Meadows open (all bream weights): Rob Fryer 130-14 (18 slabs), John Turner 118-9, Matt Winson 102-11.

● MEADOWLANDS spring league second round: Ray Bird 87-6, Nigel Smith 87lb, Dean Young 81lb.

● 'ASHBY opens: Wed, Brickyard, Courtney Hewlett 26-12, Frank Pizamenti 24lb, Andy Jones 14-8; Sat, Brickyard, Hewlett 17-4, Paul Robinson 17-2, Mark Moody 15-10; Sun, Grendon, Chris Camplin 59-12 (all smallish fish), John Kent 36-4, Richard Dunkley.

● FINEDON, Chapman's Lake: John Sumpter 39-7, Steve Amos 34-10, Phil Boyne 18-9.

● CASTLE, spring league third round, Canons: Geoff Rice 16lb, Jeff Lewis 15-4, Paul Lafflin 11-12.



■ **THREE Stanwick night sessions brought Bradley Wegner six carp topped by this 30-4**

● FLORE & Brockhall, Tofts: Fred Johnson 10lb, Alan Brightman 6lb, Steve Smith 5-12.

● FIXTURES: Monday, Nene AGM, 7.30pm, Yeoman of England, Wootton; April 17, Lakeside open, 07739 094216; April 19 Castle AGM, 8pm Far Cotton WMC ■

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