

Christmas comes early for Steve in festive river match

DATS' Steve Wright was a happy man 'in the afternoon' – netting a 5-8 Ouse chub AND scooping top prize in the club's Christmas match with 11-13.

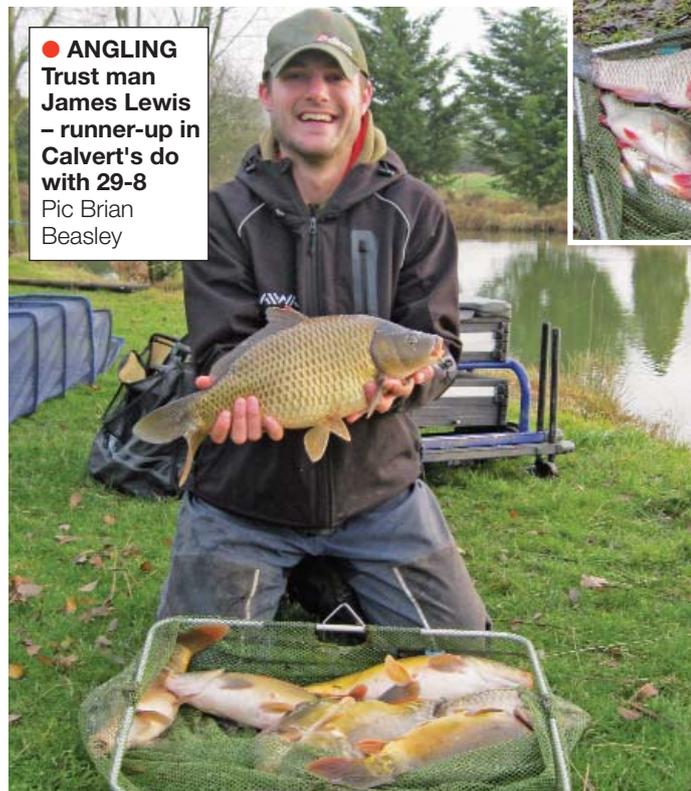
And he did that despite his swim on the Main having been well-fished by others midweek. Paul Hamilton made second with 9-14 as Kevin Osborne had 8-7-8 – both having found some chunky perch to boost their weights.

■ CALVERT's Hill Cottage fur and feather started well – with owner Brian Beasley handing out coffees and mince pies – and continued that way as both carp and silvers went on feed.

Dave Lewis won with 32-3 as son James, an Angling Trust officer, had 29-8 followed by Barry Witteridge 11-11 and John Weatherall 10-12.

■ IT was roach, roach and more roach in Tove Valley Matchgroup's Lakeside silverfish do...with the 19 competitors totalling a mind-blowing 285lb of redfins.

Maver MK's Ian Smith emerged top dog with 20-5,



● ANGLING Trust man James Lewis – runner-up in Calvert's do with 29-8
Pic Brian Beasley



● DATS' Ouse winner Steve Wright included a 5-8 chub in his 11-13
Pic John Hewison

ahead of Darren Pannell 19-5 and Richard Lattimer 19-3.

■ A QUICK 'stalk' on Olney's Ouse saw Dave Partridge net a 2-8 perch, Sunday.

■ THE Nene-Towcester canal knock-up at Yardley was hard going...but Bas Eaton won with 12-4 of skimmers as Mick Goodridge had 7-8 and Brian Beard 5-2.

Goodridge had had another win, days earlier, 'stealing' the West Mercia Police annual do with 5-15 of silvers on the Staffs & Worcester canal. Towcester are still putting a team in on the basis that, year's ago, a then member was a force pensioner. Well, that's their alibi, and they're sticking to it.

■ MK Vets memorial Christmas sweep on Bradwell canal started with a minute's silence in memory of those gone to that big keepnet in the sky. Bob Gale's winnings included a Tackle Hub-donated voucher as he won with 7-4 (mostly perch). Emie Sattler had 6-4 and Paul Chapman 6-1.

■ KINGFISHER, Brush Mill Ouse: Colin Chart 7-13 (inc a 4-14 chub), John Robinson 3-11, John White 2-10.

■ TOWCESTER Vets, Astwell Mill: Tosh Saunders 6-7 of roach, Graham Martin 6-2, Dave Prodder 4-14.

■ SATURDAY's casting teach-in at Waters Edge Tackle – by aces Pete Springate and Rob Dixon – attracted 45 to 50 participants, some of whom went home well-pleased with their new-found distance capability.

FIXTURES: Dec 27 MK golden peg Cosgrove cut, and Jan 1 MKAA 'hangover' Ouse open – book either on 01234 713144; Jan 15 & 29 Newport pits AT pike matches 07896 782715.

TACKLE SHOP HOLIDAY HOURS: all four MK tackle shops closed Dec 25 and 26 and Jan 1, with all bar Waters Edge closed Jan 2. Tackle Hub and Willards are also closed Dec 27. All close early on Christmas Eve.