

Christmas comes early as roach shoals come on feed

CHRISTMAS came early for Tove Valley matchgroup – when the roach really 'came on' for their Lakeside open.

The venue, near Towcester, exceeded all expectations on the day with roach seemingly queuing up to take baits in the silverfish event which saw the 19 competitors bagging almost 290lb of redfins between them.

Maver MK's Ian Smith was top of the festive tree with 20-5 as squad-mate Richard Lattimer made third on 19-3 – the pair separated by Towcester's Darren Pannell on 19-5.

■ MKAA's post-Xmas golden peg on DATS' Navvi canal length was hit hard by temperatures down to minus 3. Paul Chapman boosted his weight to 4-5-8 with a 2lb bonus perch. Terry Lambert had 1-10, Kevin Osborne 1-6-8 and Robin Lett 0-3-8.

■ *CARPER* Richard Purnell has been back on Furzton with his rods AND his cameras...landing a new PB 27lb common in a cold old overnigher.

He's produced a great little film of the session (including shots of bacon for his samies sizzling in the

pan) and it has to be said that the quality of his movie-making just keeps getting better and better. Find it on the MKAA facebook page and see for yourself!



● **WINNER**
Ian Smith:
happy as
Santa in a
warm
chimney on
a cold night!

■ POUND-plus perch showed in force for MK Vets visit to Stony Main and Toombes where Kevin Osborne won with 9-8 followed by Martin Cunniffe 6-1, and Austin Maddock 5-13.

■ A QUICK Boxing Day stint on Towcester's Castlethorpe canal section saw Mick Goodridge net nine bream to 3lb for a pleasure net topping 12lb.

■ SMALL dace, roach and perch, plus the odd chub to 4lb, were being caught from Olney's Ouse over the beak.

■ TOWCESTER and Nene's joint do on DATS' Navvi fell to John Balhatchett with three canal chub for 8-8...as he lost five others! Kevin Nightingale had 2-4 and Tosh Saunders 2lb.

■ **FIXTURES:** Jan 1 MKAA 'hangover' Ouse open 01234 713144; Jan 15 & 29 Newport pits AT pike matches 07896 782715.

Happy New Year to One and All
(EXCEPT fish and tackle thieves)
May it be your best one yet!

TACKLE shop openings: all four MK tackle shops closed Jan 1 and Jan 2 – **EXCEPT** Waters Edge which is open on Jan 2.