

Matchgroup come good at last gasp in winter league

MAVER MK (MKAA's matchgroup) are flying high as kites – having won through to next year's Angling Trust winter league national final!

And it was no easy ride, with the chase going right to the last gasp, and only secured by an outstanding team performance in Sunday's Castle Ashby series final round.

Going into that Black Horse had had an unbeatable lead with Northampton Royal Mail favourites for second and the remaining qualifier's slot.

But despite not having a man in the overall top-five, MK managed a section win (Ian Smith on 13-3) two seconds and five thirds to take second on the day and leapfrog 'Mail by a single point in the overall table.

Well done that crew, and best of luck in February's big final.

■ NEWPORT's pike series opener produced a flurry of action with 21 fish shared by 29 anglers and Ray House nabbing the biggest at 14-3.

Terry Read won the Fishing Republic-sponsored event with four for 22-14 as Chris Rayner had two for 19-14 and John Boardman a pair for 16-7.

■ **IF you are looking for a REAL biggie, Pitsford reservoir yielded a 39-2 a couple of weeks back.**

■ **ARE you a top lure angler – there are a lot about of late – then why not bid for a Team England squad place? APPOINTED by the Angling Trust for next year's world champs on Rutland, manager**



Steve Collett is calling for top-class volunteers experienced in boat-fishing and use of fish-finder electronics.

Any takers should email sandra.johnson@anglingtrust.net and apply before January 26.



■ **ALDERS, midweek:** Gary West 60lb, Trevor Price 55lb, Dave Wallace 49lb.

■ **OUSE, Toombes, Saturday, MKAA Christmas match:** Steve Chilton 8-11 (perch), Don King 3-4, Roy Hefferon 3-3.

■ **OUSE, Toombes, Sunday, Kingfisher:** Chilts drew the same peg again and won again, this time with 9-8. John White 1-6, Pau Hack 0-7.

■ **OUSE open, Radwell:** Ray Hickman 3-4, Neil Shearn 2-15, Mick Burrell 1-8.

■ **MK Vets, Canons Ashby:** Dave Cantrell 16-11, Kevin Osborne 6-8, Les Smith 3-10.

■ **CALVERT, Hill Cottage:** Barry Witteridge 12-15, Andy Franklin 10-4, John Hewison 5-15.

■ **LINFORD, canal, wilderness:** John Hough 3-10, Roy Hefferon and Pete Whatley both 0-9.

■ **FIXTURES:** Saturday, Olney Xmas match, 01234 240061; Dec 28 MKAA golden peg and Jan 1 hangover open, both on Ouse, 01234 713144; Sunday & Jan 7, Newport pike open series, 07896 782715.

● **Left: Ian Smith, Maver MK's top points-scorer in their Castle Ashby winter league triumph**

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