

Some strike it lucky as season crawls to close

AS the river season stuttered to yesterday's close, only the most desperate were out there trying to catch something – anything!

Among them Paul Andrews boosted Olney's best-of-season chub mark – which he already held with a 5-11 – to 6-5.

And on the same length Dave Partridge made fourth in a club match with just one perch...scaling 3-3-8.

■ Upstream in MK Shaun Taylor, still convalescing from injuries sustained in a fire, managed to see his season out in style with a 5-9 chub...and an ear-to-ear grin. Elsewhere on the Ouse and Ouzel Arthur Terrill, Ian Woodman and Gary Maton all found a fish or two in the final days of the season.

■ **REGULARS** on Lodge (same close season as rivers) were also making the most of the remaining days.

In the case of Lou Smith and Chris Denton, that included freeing a carp – estimated at 22-24lb – found tethered to a bush after taking the bait on a rig which had broken off after someone had miscast.

For Lou that meant a very cold spell on the bank in his budgie-smugglers while drying off after wading in to help the fish.

A job well done...but whoever lost the gear should have retrieved it, or at least reported it if they couldn't.

Chris also had a brace of low doubles using conventional rod-and-line tactics. Steve Lindopp had one too, as did Alex Buey.

■ ON Furzton two Sutton Coldfield visitors shared six carp to 20lb. At Sherington Pits, piker Graham Hadkiss a low-double snapper.

■ POOR river conditions shifted MKAA's Grand Slam to the cut at Bradwell where Nigel Bass had 4-5 of perch and roach with Scott Tapp on 1-13-8 as Dave McLennan and Kevin Osborne tied on 1-9-8.

■ **OLNEY's** Ouse do fell to Mike Farey with three perch to 3-2 for 7-12. Paul Caton had 5-8 and Nigel Porter 4-1.

■ **MK Vets, canal, Willowbridge:** despite the electro-fishing team going through... Paul Chapman **STILL** won with 5-2. Dave McLennan 2-2, Mick Hefferon 1-14.

■ **TOWCESTER** and Nene, canal, Heyford: Les Wallace had a 2lb perch in his 6-14, Dave Gibbins 6-4, Graham Martin 5-12.

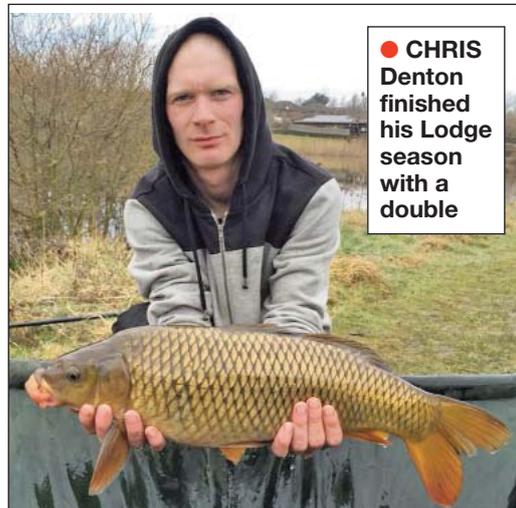
■ **ALDERS** open: Sean Wain 42-2, Mark Newbold 38-12, Andy Leathers 38-11.

■ **CALVERT,** Ouse, Buckingham: Austin Maddock 2-2, Dave Lewis 1-4...the rest are just glad it is all over.

■ **VAUXHALL** open, Ouse, Bedford town centre: Dave Bowler 3-14, Nigel Bass 2-8...and Kevin Osborne third with the smallest ruffe he'd ever seen!



● **CHUB** in the parks: Shaun Taylor with 5-9 Ouse chub



● **CHRIS** Denton finished his Lodge season with a double