

**Don't hold your breath, but are the...**

# Fish starting to feed - at last!

**AT LAST! Fish seem to be waking up – in SOME places – even if spring still seems far from sprung...**

Stanwick's carp seekers have been on the up with a parade of good fish led by the complex's best of the year so far, a 36lb common landed by Mark Pichers.

Tom Boulton had a 29-12 and Tom Hale a PB in shape of a 27-14 mirror. Woody had five to 24-8.

● ON the match front Meadowlands' spring league second round saw Lee Taylor win with 128-12 ahead of Ritchie Watts 105-10 and Neil Russell 90-4.

● WHITE Hart Flore didn't do too bad, either, on Barby Banks as Gary Muddiman won with 135lb followed by John Berry 102lb and Rob Wickham 92lb.

● **THIS spring the Canal River Trust's electro-fishing team has removed almost a tonne of zander from the cut between Three Locks and Whilton.**

*The invasive alien predator has spread southwards from the Braunston area over a number of years, coinciding with a sharp decline in silverfishing – and it is estimated that the tonne of Zs removed would have already eaten at least two-tonnes of prey fish...if not more.*

The on-going work seems to be impacting on the southwards spread. This time the greater numbers, and highest average sizes, were taken from lengths north of Blisworth tunnel.

Though not universally popular, the electro-fishing is supported and part-funded by tenant clubs and individuals keen to restore the canal's historic silverfishing potential.

● **NENE's annual meeting held ticket prices, except for the junior card which drops back to a fiver a year.**

● TOVE Valley, Lakeside: Adam Griffiths 67-2, Dave Martin 52-9, Terry Davis 37-6.

● CASTLE Ashby: midweek, Nigel Baxter 49-12, Alan West 40-8, Courtney Hewlett 28-6; Sat., C Hewlett 49-4, Keith Garratt 39-6, Chris Garratt 31-12; Sun., Alan West 51-12,

Wayne Robinson 47-4, Mick Hewlett 44-12.

● WHITE Hart Flore oldies, Barby Banks: Tom Griffiths 45-10, Gary Muddiman 38-13, Robin Wickham 17lb.

● W'BORO, Wetwo cup, Mill Cotton, silverfish: Pete Hawley 14-8, Roger Johnson 11-13, Adi Stokes 9-11.

● NENE-Towcester, Banbury Lane canal: Dave Gibbins 11-6, Paul Minney 7-12, Bas Eaton 5-12.

● FLORE & Brockhall, final silverfish teams-of-three round, Dennetts: Steve Barratt and Alan Boulton, both Nubold, 8lb and 6lb, Tony Ward (TTs 4-10). League top three: Nubold 77.5 points, TTs 59.5, Dolphins 41.5.

● NEWPORT, Abbey Pits: Don King 1-14, Dave Tebbutt 1-8, Steve Glidewell 1-3.

● TOWCESTER Vets, Grafton canal: John Balhatchett 1-2, Grenville Reed 0-8, Tony Hirst 0-3.

● **FIXTURES:** April 22, MK canal spring league opener, 01234 713144.



■ Tom Boulton's 29-2 Stanwick common



■ Alan Calver caught and released this 5-2 brownie at Elinor