



NKAA VETERANS

Dateline: 11th August 2010
Venue: GU Canal - Mill Road to Manorsfield

THE SUCKER PUNCH!!

This get together was rescheduled from the listed programme on the results of the recent Southern Canal League and the results of this match justifies that move. As in all canal matches, the end pegs are always a favourite – especially if you are the lucky one to draw them that is! Today was no exception and good anglers on these pegs only means one thing – we that are left can only wonder ‘What if?’

A slight delay on the draw time was due to names being taken for Claydon lake next week and the Ken Ball Furzton Festival the week after. Next week’s match at claydon is now fully booked so sorry if you have not given your name in, and the numbers for Furzton are filling fast so if you haven’t done so already, please phone TV asap

The major surprise today was that those who fished the bread punch made it pay off handsomely. Now this bait has always been traditionally a winter one but there have been a growing number of anglers this year who now include it as part of their strategy no matter what the time of year. Now if you ever get the chance to watch those that who fish this with devastating results – anglers like Mick Heffron, Ernie Sattler and John Harvey for instance, do so because that’s the way to learn and improve your own capabilities. Today’s match was a dream start for Mick (Punch wizard) Heffron who not only drew end peg 1 but no-one drew peg 2 and he was left on his own to take full advantage of his good fortune - and take it he certainly did. Starting on his favourite punch, he was quickly into action and his 3rd fish was a 4lb plus bream which you have to give credit for him to net this fish when you consider what light tackle he was using. 3 pegs away from Mick was Mr Consistent – Gordon Metcalfe who fished caster and had an equally good start and 2 good bream in the net before the boats started and slowed the action down. The area to the left was definitely the on to be in and the average weight here was over 6lbs – excellent for the canal.

Meanwhile, those of us on the right got our heads down and caught what we could with Alan Ford fishing caster and catching ok before the boats also slowed his sport down. Ernie Sattler fished punch and was constantly putting roach in the net and building a good weight. Out of sight and around the bend, John Wood and Bill Carder were both catching well and making the most of their good fortunes by having vacant pegs around them. Back from illness and proving that he has lost none of his skills, Paul Neave was making inroads with a steady catch rate and Barry Witteridge had a couple of decent skimmers and looked on for a good result. Roger Tebbut used his immense knowledge but like me could only find small fish. Now this year is an exciting time for those of us who like to fish hemp and whilst it does not work everywhere, Steve Wright used a well known substitute – elderberries and caught some lovely sized roach and Ted (Method Man) Brown did his usual trick and found another bream from his unlikely swim – on the method of course!

As for the end results – Mick Heffron was way out in front with 12lbs 14ozs and he was chased by Gordon Metcalfe on 8lbs 15ozs. Terry (Whip King) Valentine took A section with 7lbs 2ozs and John Wood just pipped Ernie Sattler by 1 ounce with 7lbs 3ozs for B section honours. All in all a good day and we are hoping for a continuation next week at Claydon Lake.

Tight lines

Roachman