

MKAA VETERANS GU CANAL MILL ROAD 10TH AUGUST 2011

RECORD TURNOUT FOR A CANAL VENUE

Today saw a return to the canal. The day started well and Ken Mott, although not fishing today made a collection for the Dave Bacon memorial match and a fantastic £90.00 was raised which Dave's widow Doreen has requested be donated to Willen Hospice.

A record number of 32 vets turned out today and extra pegs had to be put in – luckily there was room to do this. As always all eyes were on the most consistent angler in these matches – Ernie Sattler who for once did not draw an end peg. Instead, these went to Steve Chilton and Dick Peerless. As the match started, a number of anglers including Steve, Bruce Harvey and Ted Brown lost big fish and this set the pattern for the outcome of the match. Some new faces and some on holiday made the day even more enjoyable and banter was soon rife on the bank. Overheard nearby came 'On for a £1.00 side bet then? Yes of course came the reply. – Good – got any bait spare then?' PRICELESS.

Once the match got underway, it became clear that those early lost fish would prove to be very costly as the boats started, the wind gained in strength and small fish became the route to go. As noted recently on the Southern Canal League small perch have made a strong return and for some they became the main quarry. Another highlight came when one boat was asked to come down the middle of the canal and the occupants became aggressive and abusive and then started arguing between themselves which they continued to do way past the match length much to our amusement.

Pegged on the next to last peg popular Buckingham angler Tony Richardson stuck to his favoured method of fishing worm to excellent effect and totally dominated the match with a good weight of bream. Next door, Roger Tebbut, fresh from fishing the Div 1 national the previous Saturday and armed with some excellent northern squat fished these to brilliant effect to claim second place. Dick Peerless on the other side of Tony and therefore end peg stuck to his task – blinkered and happy as usual to take his section. On the other side of the bridge and noting the earlier lost fish Ernie Sattler began to put together a steady stream of small roach and perch to take his section ahead of Didder Heffron who had a late run of better stamp of fish on the breadpunch.

As this year's Ted Brown trophy draws to close and as predicted, Ernie Sattler has taken advantage of some good late draws to edge ahead of John Harvey who has not been so lucky at the draw bag and now leads John by 11 points- so barring a complete disaster on the last round next week when we visit Brackley again, Ernie looks well placed to 'lift' this trophy in its inaugural year.

Just a quick reminder, the vets Furzton festival on the 24th August still has a few places left and anyone wishing to fish must book in with Terry Valentine. The ticket cost is £10.00 of which £5.00 will be donated to Willen Hospice. Today's results then are as follows:

1 st	Tony Richardson	8lbs 1oz
2 nd	Roger Tebbut	5lbs 13ozs
A section	Dick Peerless	3lbs 5ozs
B section	Ernie Sattler	5lbs 3ozs

Hope to see you on the 24th Aug festival match – cake provided – again!!

Roachman