

MKAA VETERANS – GU CANAL – COSGROVE 21ST SEPTEMBER 2011

GREAT EXPECTATIONS DASHED

This week's foray saw a return to the canal at Cosgrove and hopes were high that the holiday boat season would be in decline now. How wrong can you be? Well it appears that more people have learnt of the lower costs of owning and living on a boat over the more traditional house and as a consequence they like to moor up close to a bridge in order to minimise the distance between car and boat. This of course leads to problem of where anglers can park when attending matches. Today was no exception and we were left with only half of the number of pegs available between Cosgrove Bridge and the lock. In fact, John Harvey, our pegger out on the day had a nightmare and after 3 attempts managed to squeeze in just 8 out of the usual 15 well spaced out pegs that should have been available – Ah well, another sign of the times I suppose.

As for the match, it was those anglers who found themselves with untaken or end peg advantage that fared the best. Needless to say, 'End peg Ernie' Sattler was one of those and had a near 4lb Bream in the net taken on bread punch first put in from his end peg just past the big bend. At the other end of the match, opposite the poplars, Mick Reynolds was off like a rocket catching on punch until the first boat came through and like others, his sport died and it was his neighbour Ian Greenhood who has obviously learnt a lot from his coaching time who made Mick (in his own words) sweat profusely at the thought of being overtaken who then fared better than most in that area.. On the big bend, bream blows were more like a Jacuzzi and the four anglers there were champing at the bit but right on cue on the starting whistle came the first of many boats of the day and the fish disappeared well almost one angler who has had a very fair share of bream & skimmer weights Gordon Metcalfe did manage to snare a few before the boat activity got too much even for this shoal. Dave McClelland found himself 'un-opposed' at the top of the straight before the big bend and made the most of his good fortune by catching all day on pole and waggler fished caster and ended with a real mixture of fish including a customary for this area chub.

In retrospect, the anglers who had no-one around them did best and the most consistent area was indeed the poplars. Ken Mott was ruing his loss of lady luck after losing a tench and two good bream which would easily have won him the honours on the day. TV, making a now rare appearance also took advantage of no-one near to catch over 160 small fish for 4lbs 13ozs from his peg past the wires and Tony Richardson also prospered from a similar peg below Cosgrove bridge to catch 4lbs 10ozs on worm.

1 st	Dave McClelland	6lbs 13ozs (pole/waggler fished caster)
2 nd	Ernie Sattler	5lbs 8ozs (pole fished punch and sqatt)
A section	Tony Richardson	4lbs 10ozs (pole fished worm)
B section	Terry Valentine	4lbs 13ozs (whip – REALLY? –fished suatt & pinkie)

Next week sees another return to Furzton and this match will also be a pair's match. See you there

Roachman