

MKAA VETERANS -RIVER OUSE -CALVERTON RD/BRUSHMILL

1st FEBRUARY 2012

ONLY THE BRAVE ATTEND

Yes, winter has now arrived and for those brave enough or who do not take notice of weather forecasts – 14 turned up for today's foray on the river. With freezing temperature's combined with a wind it was cold enough to 'cut you in half', but still that was no deterrent for these vets. Opting for a more sensible option of a spell of graft on the allotment I was glad to get back in the car once I had completed the draw and on the way home I thought of those souls sitting out there hoping that this was their day and thought the following was fairly appropriate: (Sung to the tune of 10 green bottles:)

14 veterans fishing in a row

14 veterans with nowhere else to go

All of them hoping for one or more fish

Or would this be just be a wondrous wish?

Glad to be able to work with my back to the wind and thus keep fairly warm (mad dogs and Englishmen do not only go out in the mid-day sun!) my allotted tasks were completed in time to pick up Terry Lancaster who had also helped me to peg-out the day before and get to the match well in time for the end. As we walked down, it was noticeable that some had already given it second best and done the sensible thing and gone to seek some warmth. Only 3 above the weir had caught and 3 below – but with 6 blanks on Brushmill it does not look good for the weekend's league match. Out of the 3 above the weir, Roy Ash was fairing the best admitting to 5lbs – ish, his brother Rupert had his first bite with 30 minutes to go and Dave Ridgeway was admitting to 8 – 10 ozs. On brushmill, only John Harvey had caught - admitting to a few roach on his favoured punch whilst 5 others were still trying. Well after collecting empty peg numbers it was time for the weigh-in and our task was completed in double quick time. John Harvey nailed a podium place but had to settle for 2nd behind Roy Ash who easily took the honours of the day. I have known Roy for many years and he is without doubt a thinking angler. Having fished the area above the weir on a few occasions but not catching much he decided to go for the unthinkable approach for the conditions and it paid off – handsomely. This win he told me was his 3rd in his last 3 outings – so he must be doing something right. In light of the increasingly bad weather forecasts I will be carrying out a visit on the river on Monday and if it is frozen over the match **will** be cancelled.

But for this week:

1 st	Roy Ash	7lbs 13ozs – Perch and roach on wag & mag
2 nd	John Harvey	2lbs 9ozs – Roach on stick float & Punch
3 rd	Dave Ridgeway	1lb exactly – roach & dace on pole fished maggots.

Keep warm and safe – time for tackle overhaul methinks while this weather is around.

Roachman



Roy Ash