

**MKAA VETS – LINFORD WHARF & GIFFORD PARK**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2012**

**SOME GOOD, SOME BAD, SOME INDIFFERENT**

Well, after a spell off the canal, this was going to be a tester to see if this can be better than the indifferent river matches of late. With a relatively low turn-out of only 18, we certainly had plenty of space and with Mick Heffron away on holiday in 'Aussie Land' it was down to you know who to peg out (again) but I was able to give 30 yards between pegs and with not many boats (surprise surprise) everyone was able to see the next angler. In the draw, no guesses as to who got an end peg – (yes he certainly has an unusual gift in that department) and when my peg was drawn for me (I never draw my own on these matches) I found myself within 2 pegs from our Ern and we were on our own by birds bridge – well that was until just before the start when we were joined by the landscaping team from Frost's who proceeded to trim tree branches and put them through a chipper – great!

Winge of the day over, and it was down to the start. For most it was a slow one and an end chat with a few it seemed that the fish needed 30 odd minutes to get their bibs on and feed then the bread specialists got a few skimmers and the scene was set. As for Ernie and I, we really struggled not surprising really with that disturbance for a very few fish and with losing a **very** big perch at the net – the one and only bite I had on worm didn't help. With no-one walking the bank there was obviously some activity further up. Paul Neave and Mick Reynolds got some skimmers but whilst Paul had 6 on the bounce, Mick had to wait for up to 15 minutes between fish. Even further up, 'Artful' Austin Maddock was steaming ahead with perch and good sized skimmers all falling to big red or pinkie over groundbait and his weight would have been further enhanced by a bream estimated at over 4lbs rolled at the 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt of being netted – probably due to some dog walkers who stopped to see the action – and shed the hook. Next to Artful was Ian Greenhood who had to be even more patient before a big bream took a liking to his worm offering. Others though had their interests kept alive by a few bites and fish which is very encouraging.

Overall, it was a reasonable match with no blanks and weights between 1½ and 7lbs this was better than some had feared.

So for the results:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Artful Austin Maddock	7lbs 2ozs – skimmers and perch
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mick the Bread Reynolds	5lbs 11ozs – skimmers
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ian 'Evergreen' Greenhood	5lbs exactly
4 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Neave	4lbs 14ozs 12drms

I am now taking names for Alders on April 11<sup>th</sup> which I am going to run as a pairs match – pairs made up of an experienced commercial angler with a non experienced so that interests are kept alive – this format is popular and gives everyone a chance for podium places. Please phone me for fixture list if you need one etc – tight lines

*Roachman*