

MKAA VETERANS – GU CANAL MILL ROAD 02 MAY 2012

SAD START TO THE DAY

A minutes silence was observed today following the very sad news that Roy (Acker) Ash had finally lost his long battle with cancer. Although very ill for a long time this never stopped his desire or enthusiasm to go fishing no matter what the weather or how he well he felt – Roy was a very nice person to know and his angling skills were immense on a wide variety of waters. He won a vets match over the winter on a low clear river by groundbaiting heavily and when asked why he had opted for this he replied (with a glint in his eye) that he had been fishing for a very long time and had learnt from previous experiences. Roy will be missed greatly by the angling fraternity - not only the veterans group but various venues that he and his inseparable brother Rupert fished. We send our most genuine condolences to Roy's family and by the time this report goes to paper print Roy's funeral will have taken place at Gt Horwood church.

For the rest of the day's report it was a match of two half's as the intended even peg split could not be completed due to a large influx of moored boats. This is now beginning to get to serious proportions in areas in MK and I do not have an answer to it. The pegs that usually produce the goods behind the bungalows failed to live up to their past glories as did the 3 pegs towards manorfields. Perhaps the overriding significant factor was the amount of pike activity today with at least 3 anglers losing fish to the feeding predators and several occasions fish were sent scattering in all directions. Following on from giving me a poor draw, Ian Greenhood pulled out an end peg for me today and I have taken this opportunity in signing him on contract for the remainder of the year (revocable if I get 3 bad draws on the bounce of course!!). Arriving at my peg I was greeted by normally end peg Ernie Sattler who was safely ensconced on the flier 2 pegs above me. Ernie is far too good an angler to have this advantage and he made no mistakes today. Fishing dead red maggots over green stim swim groundbait he totally dominated the match with a fine bream and skimmer catch despite losing at least one skimmer to pike. On the early pegs Mick Reynolds had a good start but his swim faded over time whereas Rob Latham found the opposite but neither angler could match the weights the other side of the bridge. Paul Neave fished his usual tidy match pegged just past the boat turn but some good anglers below him struggled to get fish due to those pike and then it was down to the last two pegs for the most prolific sport of the day. Starting on the whip and then switching to the track, my caster approach did the business with some quality roach, 1 bream and 2 skimmers coming to the net before three occurrences moved the fish away.

Today then:

1 st	Ernie Sattler (Bait-Tec)	22lbs 2ozs
2 nd	John Hewison	9lbs ½ oz.
A section	Paul Neave	4lbs 11ozs
B section	John Harvey	4lbs 2ozs 8drms

Next week we are at teardrops and it remains to be seen if the recent influx of water will give the fish the notion to feed.

Roachman