

MILTON KEYNES VETERANS
CLATTERCOTE RESERVOIR 23RD MAY 2012

VENUE REGULARS DOMINATE THIS MATCH

To say that I was very disappointed with the low turnout today for what has always been a very strongly supported event is an understatement. Only 16 arrived and as such the previous hard work by Ken Mott was all for nowt. With these numbers we fished on the near bank and with fish topping all the way up spirits were high and minds went into overdrive with potential catches! As usual though the sound of the starting whistle sent those fish going for shelter and some very frustrated faces were evident. Not for the first time, the weather forecast was not accurate and the day was hot and not a breath of air on our bank until the last 10 minutes of the match.

Drawn on the last peg was venue regular Austin Maddock who again showed his expertise on this water with two early carp and then a lovely net of bream and skimmers to destroy the rest of the field. Ken Mott, another regular here proved that you have to fish a venue on a regular basis to get to grips with fish feeding habits and again proved the power of the worm with a catch of 1 tench and some really quality roach to just get the edge over Paul Barnes who in his own words spent too long chasing the elusive carp before concentrating on bream. Down on peg 1, Mick Heffron was harassed as were three other vets by foraging pike which would not let the ready to feed roach settle and had to wonder just what might have been after weighing in a creditable 15lbs 2ozs of the lovely redfins. Mid way along, John the roachman found himself sandwiched between carp anglers and whilst his 19lbs 10ozs was not too far off the pace his fish were far smaller and at one stage his next peg neighbour Gordon Metcalf commented that the fish must have been standing on each other's shoulders to get to the bait they were coming so fast but then a very quiet 3rd hour proved his downfall for podium place.

So, all in all not quite the number of anglers today, the lack of breeze and clear water colour combined with hot sun probably did not help but still a nice day out. Top 3 weights then were:

1 st	Austin Maddock	44lbs 1oz
2 nd	Ken Mott	23lbs 4ozs
3 rd	Paul Barnes	23lbs 2ozs.

Now for next week – both Wappenham and the overspill venue at Beachampton are sold out events but I'm certain that some may still turn up in the hope of fishing – alas they will be disappointed. After a practice session at Wappenham I have a feeling that this will produce some very very good weights so watch this space.

Represented MK veterans at Roy Ashes funeral which was a lovely service and Roy will be greatly missed on our matches.

Roachman