

MKAA VETERANS
CLATTERCOTE RESERVOIR 11TH JULY 2012

Secrets, Patterns, Lost Fish but a Great Day out.

This venue had always been a magnet for the veterans and at one time in excess of 35 made the journey but over the last year in particular, numbers have consistently fallen for I suspect a number of reasons – recently probably due to the cost of travel. Today therefore saw a very poor turnout of just 16. With Ernie Sattler being one of those not present, it was left to his understudy Austin (Mr Artful) Maddock to draw the end peg – AND GUESS WHAT –yes he duly obliged – again - oh we did laugh.

Laughing aside, we were very pleasantly surprised to enjoy some decent weather – against what was forecast. A good wind from right to left and some cloud around gave near ideal conditions. As usual, the feeder heads were all hoping that the carp would feed to boost their weights and as none were topping hopes were high that that would be the case. 6 however opted for the pole and as this is a consistent method here - especially now that the resi is full to the brim and carrying colour this can only be described as ideal pole conditions.

The day was set then and all in all it was very pleasant despite the few showers – a couple very heavy - the sun made it feel good to be out fishing in good company. As is the usual here, the feeder did win and despite his end peg Artful Austin could not get that all important win. This was achieved by Dave Lewis who has only recently joined this happy throng (that's THRONG not thong) and is known for his more than consistent results at Claydon lake but is a danger for all on a number of other venues he fishes especially where carp are concerned – and today was no exception as he found 4 decent carp which together with some skimmers gave him that all important win. Whilst other members found the odd carp however it was skimmers and bream that seemed to be the most reliable feeders but not for all – some had to wait and wait and wait before they showed but then not enough to contend the podium places. For others however it was a day that 'Could have been' had it not been for lost fish. Normally reliable anglers lost more fish than they would admit to and this let in the pole men with top on this method being the Roachman. Drawn mid match, John H set about his usual quarry with gusto and drawing on experience and constantly altering shotting and baits ended the day with one tench, one decent perch and a lot of roach for second place. Other pole anglers also fared well with Ken Mott weighing 24lbs 3ozs, Ian Greenhood 16lbs 13ozs and Lol Harding 14lbs 12ozs all very pleasing weights and a good days fishing by any standards. End peg stand in Austin Maddock duly completed the podium places with a respectfully good catch of bream and skimmers but with no carp he just fell short of his target. So, for today then:

1 st	Dave Lewis	40lbs 1oz – 4 carp plus skimmers – method feeder and non Disclosed bait!!
2 nd	John Hewison	31lbs 12ozs - Pole various baits.
3 rd	Austin Maddock	28lbs 10ozs – Method feeder and 'secret squirrel bait!!

Next week sees another away visit and this time it's Claydon Lake – places still available for those interested.

Roachman