

# MKAA VETERANS CLAYDON LAKE 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2012

## GREAT EXPECTATIONS DASHED

### To Bream or Not to Bream

For our latest venture 'Out of Town', this group of 20 were at Claydon Lake courtesy of Calvert AC and run by the very affable Barry Witteridge and John Weatherall to whom we extend our grateful thanks. Over the past years this lake has seen many changes but always at the forefront of people's minds are the shoals of Bream, backed up by good Tench and now Carp. As is always the case the main question is 'Will they Feed'? The 'In' pegs are always to be found in the field and you have a 50% chance of drawing one of these, and then there are the car park pegs usually reserved for the short walkers but these do have a habit of producing some very big fish but are not for the faint hearted – you really do have to gear up to stand any chance of getting these out especially as most of the swims have a large quantity of Lilly pads in them in addition to the usual Canadian pond weed. So as we operate a fair system of pools pay-out, we set 3 sections in plan today, - pegs 1 to 9 on the left hand field, 12 to 18 at the car park and finally 27 to 34 on the much favoured right hand field side. However, always on our minds is to draw the field swims to get the best start.

Again, the weather forecasters were out of touch with reality and just before the start down came the rain and it got steadily worse for the first 2 plus hours of the match then odd downpours which meant the broolly was put to full time employment. Having been drawn on one of the car park swims I was lucky enough to have local expert Tony Richardson on my right as he would be the best indicator if the big fish were on the feed. Part way into the match and still to catch, I heard a plop on my left and there, Rupert (Buffy) Ash was pegged and I asked him if he had had a bite yet – yes he replied I've got 7 perch and 2 roach oh I replied and spent the next couple of minutes watching him – fishing very close in he had another fish and looking further along, Ken Mott and Mick Reynolds were also into small fish so this was the moment to change tactics and get some fish in the net. Alternating between 3 swims, but still having a look on my two big fish lines, steadily the fish got more confident and you don't really notice the weather when you're busy do you?

In the field – left hand side, the local anglers were also targeting the small perch that seem to be everywhere at the moment but the bream were noticeable by their absence until John Harvey on peg 4 got his first (and it turned out only) good fish which subsequently tipped the scales at 5lb – proves you don't need many of these to get a good weight! On the right hand side Mr Consistent – Gordon Metcalf was way out in front of everyone catching bream on open ended feeder and his favourite corn bait. He later told me that he got broke by a very big fish mid match but kept plugging away for what was a significant win on the day – well done Gordon. So all in all it was a disappointing day for some but sitting in pleasant surroundings makes up for it – just so long as you remembered to bring your insect repellent with you as the mossies' here are evil to say the least: So today then:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Gordon Metcalf	15lbs 7ozs – 4 bream feeder & corn
2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Hewison	6lbs 12ozs – perch roach & rudd poled worm caster & maggot
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ron Hiller	5lbs 8ozs – perch on red maggot

A section – Ron Hillier 5lbs 8ozs & John Harvey 5lbs exactly

B section – John Hewison 6lbs 12ozs & Mick Reynolds 4lbs 3ozs

C section – Gordon Metcalf 15lbs 7ozs & Paul Hamilton 2lbs 4ozs

Finally, the pre scheduled match at Wappenham on the 29<sup>th</sup> August has been changed to Clattercote – float only!! (Not suggested by me by the way – but I'm not complaining!!)

***Roachman***