



MILTON KEYNES Angling

Association

newsline



For 2011 - '12

Society of responsible anglers founded in 1970.

Members of the Angling Trust and UOFCA

FISH GOING IN!



A few of the fish stocked by MKAA over the past year alone ● Over £1,000 worth of roach in **Tear Drop 2**
● Another £1,000 batch of tench for **Brad'll** ● 600 baby 'Supacarp' in **the canal** ● lots more to come!

AND COMING OUT ...

Magnificent 37-13 **Caldecotte** common for Neil

But best is yet to come. Which will be first to do an authenticated '40 – Caldecotte or Willen South?

LOOK out Furzton – Caldecotte has moved centre-stage as MKAA's water most likely to produce a 40lb carp in the near future...with Willen just a hooklength behind in the biggie stakes.

For almost a week in early June the bankside rumour mill – and the internet – was alive with speculation as to which MKAA water Neil Richardson (right) had banked this superb specimen from.

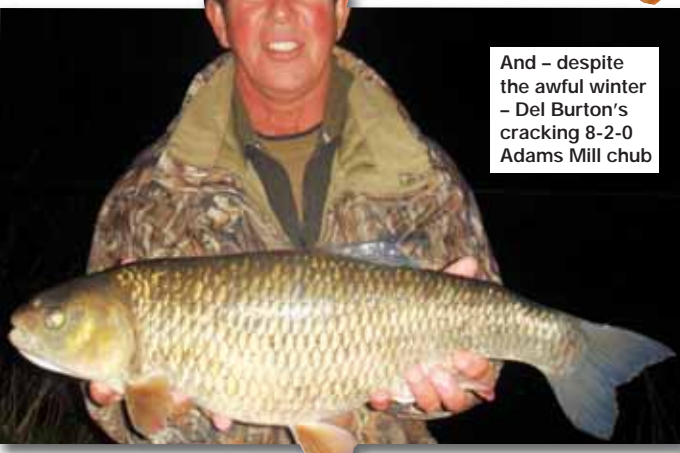
Then he told *Carp Talk* website mate Steve Sharp, who he'd originally reported the fish to, that it was from Caldecotte, apparently having initially been reluctant to attract 'the circus' by saying where he'd caught it.

Though beating MKAA's record by 2lb, Neil can't claim as he was unable to get Steve, or any other witnesses, out at 2am.

A number of huge carp (along with double figure tench) have been spotted in Caldecotte over the past few years but, until now, there have been no publicly claimed captures or pictures.

● As *Newsline* went to at the time, word was Willen – which has had growing strains over the

press unsubstantiated, out of a 40 and a near-40 from several stockings with fast past 15 or more years ■



And – despite the awful winter – Del Burton's cracking 8-2-0 Adams Mill chub

MKAA RISING STARS

They were up for the cup – and won it! MKAA's youth team scooped the NJAA Intermediate national fished on the New Holland Drain with their Blue side (14 points) scoring a clear win

over runners-up Thameside, 17.

MK White squad's Tom Addison snatched overall individual bronze with 2.79 kilo on a hard old day.

Pictured: Blues' Jack Jones, James Drakulic, Jack Leeman and Mark Quic, the latter the youngest in the match.



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When all else fails...try the cut!

If any MKAA water can be relied on to come up with a few fish when everywhere else seems dead, it has to be the Grand Union Canal.

On good days – and nights – it is everything from a fantastic match venue to an out and out specci water...with a huge amount of leisure fishing potential inbetween.

On the coldest day it will usually come up with at least a few perch and gudgeon for those who just HAVE to get out and fish for something, providing they can break through the ice that is.

Its consistency is underlined by the fact that – in the five NFA/Angling Trust senior National Championships hosted in the city so far...there wasn't a single dry net!

And this year has seen a number of 30 or near 30lb match catches (generally bream) with the 13 team MKAA spring league averaging 3-8-0 per man over the four match series.

It can also throw up surprises – like MKAA's 30-2 catfish record.

On those better days – and the canal has lots of them – it can be a specialist Mecca with carp in the high 30s, pike topping 20, tench to 9 and bream over 7, perch pushing 4-8, numbers of pound-plus roach...and hordes of smaller fish for people of all skill levels – they're all in there.

About the only time it is likely to be a no-no is when it's gin clear which, thankfully, doesn't happen that often.

Go make the most of MKAA's 9.5 miles of local canal. You might be pleasantly surprised.

PS: This spring MKAA added 600 small carp as a boost for the future.

Full of surprises the cut, like this 4-6-0 koi bagged by Paul Chapman in a winter match on the Boatyard.



Carp, pike, tench, bream, perch, roach, rudd, gudgeon, ruffe, dace, chub and even cats...the good old cut has them all



Dimmocks Pit

DIMMOCKS, near Newton Longville, is small (1.5 acres) but holds some cracking fish!



It has been developed, with Environment Agency help, as a fun fishery with lots of small fish – and a fair head of carp including a good number of doubles with a few pushing 30.

It has its own car park, short walks, really solid, comfortable pegs and the front gate is code locked (1588).

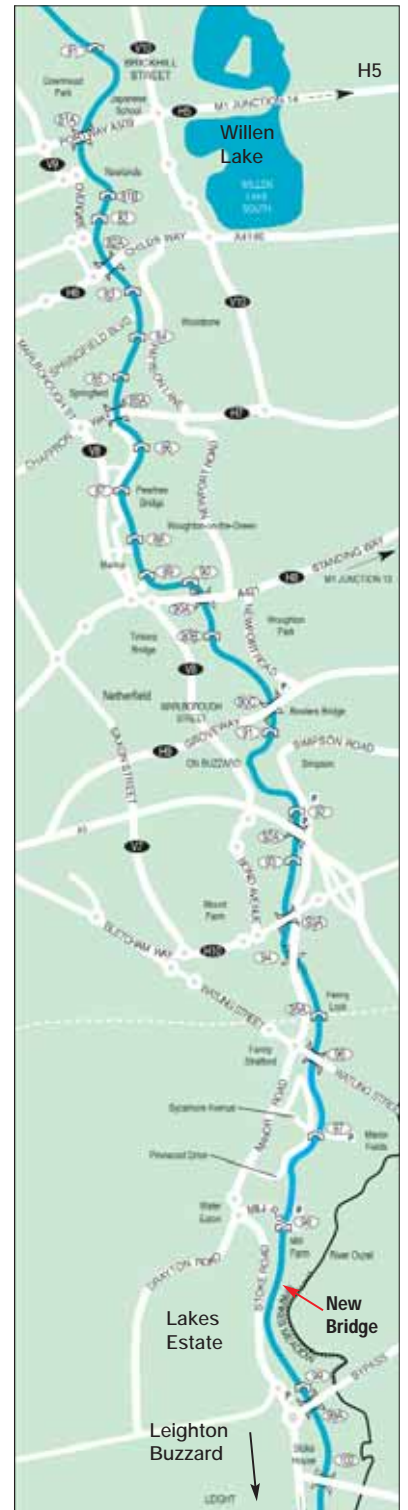
A long-established fishery it holds, all the small stuff aside, some superb specimens which would a credit many much larger waters. Tench over 6, bream of a similar size, double figure pike, good perch and some crucians.

It can be more than a bit weedy at times – part of the reason the fish grow as well as they do – but use a drag and, far from being a problem, it seems to bring fish sniffing round.

Mike Sando (top left with 4-pounder) did that on an early June day...and had 8 tench to 6-8 for around 40lbs, and lost four more plus a hefty carp!

Typical of the surprises it can produce is the 24lb common caught in early spring by Steve Warren (left) which the Leighton Buzzard rod caught on his first visit to the fishery – his PB at the time. He had his hard on the bottom, but it can be a great floater water.

● Dimmocks is open all year – two rods ONLY.

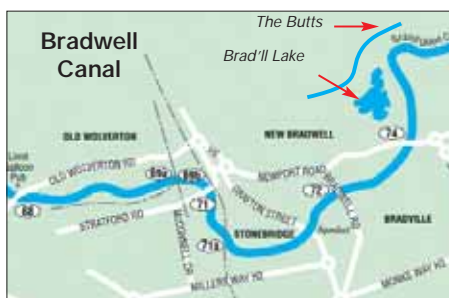


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Back to the canal. It can still produce bites and fish on days when the ice re-freezes after you've broken through! Fish aren't the only things likely to be interested in your bait, though...

If YOU can't be asked to take YOUR rubbish home – DON'T come to MKAA waters!!!



What your rod licence helps pay for

You want more – and bigger – fish in your rivers? They could already be on their way!

Over the past 24 months Environment Agency fisheries officers have been beavering away on an experiment on the Ouse which could be key to dramatically boosting, and maintaining, fish stocks on that river and others.

For years river stocks have been in apparent decline overall, some species more than others. Abstraction, dredging, predators, pollution and alien species have all been cited, with probable good cause, as likely suspects.

But most observers agree that whatever the reasons, there has been a severe fall in successful spawning by many species...and decreasing survival rates among those fry which are produced.

Going back to basics EA central area fisheries staff realised that, while many species need well oxygenated beds of loose gravel to lay their eggs in, such areas are in short supply as many gravel beds have become clogged with grit, silt and other particles – perhaps from massively increased housing developments and agricultural changes – turning them into hard, concrete-like masses.

No matter how loved-up fish may be for their once-a-year, they need the right environment or it is no go.

So the EA began 'jetting' the gravels – getting into the shallows, often in near freezing water, and using high-pressure water jets to break up the lumps, washing out the muck to create beds of loose gravel for fish to spawn on. That's what Paul Wilkanoski (black hat and frozen grimace) and colleagues are pictured doing at Ravenstone.

Is it working? The autumn just gone saw a major increase in small chub, dace, bleak and, in some areas, roach, from above Stony Stratford down to Olney, but it is still too early to say if jetting has been a significant factor, or if the improvement can be sustained.

But another EA experiment may yet answer that. A Hull University-based post graduate research student – part-funded by MKAA and the Upper Ouse Fisheries Consultative Association (UOFCAs) – is studying spawn-



ing and survival rates. Though predominantly centred on the river's barbel population, her findings are likely to reflect what is happening to several other species as well.

EA fisheries officers? Worth their weight in gold those lads. It's their drainage colleagues who go round chain-sawing out bankside cover who are the real pain!

Trevor Johnson – chairman, MKAA and UOFCAs

Changing face of Willen

Mighty Willen – especially the south lake – is a constantly, albeit slowly, changing fishery.

Shortly after it was created, almost 40 years ago, it quickly developed a reputation for monster rudd – fish to 3lb or more.

Then the perch held sway and even in deepest winter some had fish to the best part of 4lb...fly fishing with sinking lines, before the nation-wide 'perch disease' dramatically thinned them out.

Then it became a big bream and tench water with both species running to double figures and still present in significant numbers (along with a surprising number of match-sized roach).

But current phase casts it as a big carp water with real potential to provide 40 pounders.

Years of stocking by MKAA, frequently partnered by the Parks Trust, have seen thousands and thousands of pounds worth of carp – some from Naseby reservoir and



hordes of fast-growing 'Supa-carp' – introduced to the south lake.

And their growth rates prove they love it there with numerous 30s having been banked and, if the grapevine is to be believed, at least one 40 caught and returned without publicity.

Totalling 150 acres the two lakes can be dauntingly vast places to fish – but they can also be magic...and not just for the carp!

Go give them a try. The north lake is far more tranquil than the south, and don't be put off by a big blow. If you take the punishment then fishing into the wind off the east bank can be very productive.

Left: Charlie Levy with a 32-4 Willen leathery mirror and, below, Wayne Elliot who had a 29 mirror and a 27-8 common in one session



Don't forget to try Lodge

It can give you a net-full of roach or a thumping great carp. Then again it might be slab-sized bream or hard fighting tench.

On other days it can be hordes of gudgeon, big perch or a big crucian. Lodge can also be a cracking match venue, specci water or a simple fun fishery – its heaviest match-weight so far is 27 carp AND 25 bream for 142 lbs!

An all-weather water, it has produced many carp topping 20 in the depths of winter.

Fish it in winter off the H4 bank and you could be in for some superb action.

Fishing is from more than 40 permanent pegs and depths vary between 2 & 18 feet.

Most baits work at some time – and don't forget the 'Wilderness' pegs near the the badminton centre.

When Nathan Skelton (left) put in several sessions on Lodge he was rewarded with a string of doubles, including this fine 18.



TWO rods ONLY on Lodge

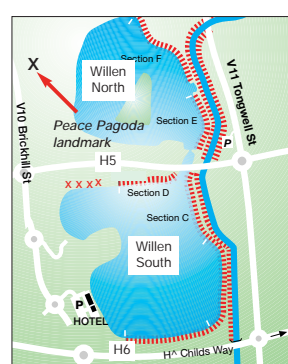
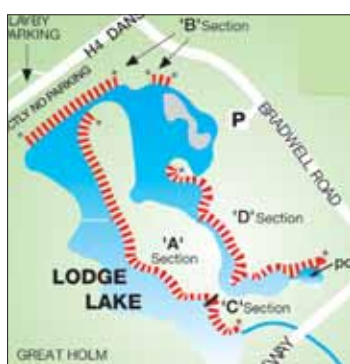
Over the past 24 months MKAA has, as part of on-going fishery improvement work, stocked several hundred crucians and skimmer bream into Lodge.

If emailing/sending in pictures please include the full name of the angler pictured and your name/phone number so we can check details if necessary. Digital pictures: large hi-res files – straight of camera if possible – preferred. Thanks.



NOTICE
FISHING & SWIMMING PROHIBITED

REMEMBER: close season (March 15 to June 15 inclusive) on Lodge Lake. NO swimming in MKAA waters at any time, and for safety no junior night fishing unless accompanied by an adult.



...IN AND AROUND...

Emberton isn't just a pretty place

Emberton Park is set in a world of its own – and can offer some great fishing.

With a water-side access road right round the inside of the 'park (please stick to the

Its lakes and river are great fisheries, too!

surfaced car parks, especially in wet weather) and a barrier controlled entrance gate, an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity is normally all part of the picture.

The four lakes (open all year) hold fair stocks of most common species with carp going up into the 30s, bream close to double figures and tench which have even been known to feed furiously during January snow storms.

For many years a 9-6-0 Emberton tench held top spot in MKAA's record list.

The 'park river – and the backwater over by the town bridge in times of winter flood – are deservedly popular and subject to the statutory close season, March 15 - June 15 .

An MKAA season ticket allows free day-time fishing (no night fishing) and you have to pay for

car access: £3.70 a day April to October, £2 a day Oct to March.

A season pass is available and the £15 Oct to March version is great value. You can use three rods on the big lakes.

● Left: city lad Terry Piggott had a spell getting among the 'Park's carp: with one of his best results this long, fit-looking 28-3 common which went off like a train when hooked.

Local tackle shop boss Gary Underwood had one off the top two season's back which bottomed his scales but is reckoned to have passed the 30 mark. And that spring saw father and son Peter and Steve McCabe having a ball – landing more than a score of 20s between them in only a few weeks of afternoon sessions.

Right: Ken Gates looks a really happy old veteran – and so he should be having landed this 18-4 pike on herring tail from Emberton's Grebe Lake...and he has had them into the 20s from the same water.



Snap up a £100 prize!

That's what Stewart Harris did when he sent in this picture of a well-chuffed Mark Furguson showing his 15lb Tear Drops common (30s have been caught there) to his girlfriend.

YOU are in with a chance of **winning £100** if you submit a picture of your – or **someone else's** – catch or fishy moment, to MKAA.

It doesn't have to be a huge fish, massive bag or even include fish...just a good picture illustrating the magic of our sport.

It should capture that special moment...transforming an ordinary picture into something special.

RULES:

1) It must have been taken on an MKAA fishery (Emberton, Letchworth & Oxford shared waters included for this purpose).

2) Send it with FULL name, address, phone number, and description, within FOUR weeks of it having been taken.

3) The winner will be chosen by MKAA executive officers (they and bailiffs are NOT eligible to enter) and their decision will be final on all matters.

4) MKAA will have the right to publish pictures submitted and may retain the print/transparency/e-file for future use.

Please send your entries to: MKAA, PO Box 3195, Milton Keynes, MK3 6ZY.

You can also email electronic files (DECENT size JPEG format is best) to: info@mkaa.co.uk if using digital...but PLEASE send full-size files and a phone number.

Good luck – enjoy your snapping as well as your fishing!



Wappenham Water

Wappenham Water (daytickets only and no night fishing) holds a superb head of carp, roach, perch, bream, tench and some crucians, too...

The carp range from a couple of pounds up to 20 – possibly slightly larger – and, like the idea or not, it also holds a fair head of barbel and chub – both species going well over 5 lbs – plus crucians, big bream, tench, orfe, and perch to 4 lb.

Around 40 lbs of roach... some averaging a pound apiece is not out of the question and a flurry of carp

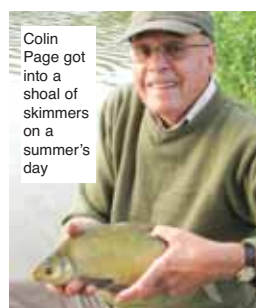
can boost those weights significantly further.

A peaceful rural location it's around 3.5 acres, depths vary from 3 feet to 15 or so, and there are 25 comfortable concrete pegs and a car park just 50 yards from the water.

From MK and Northampton take the A43 or A5 to Towcester, then the A43 bypass round to the McDonalds roundabout and take minor road (signed to Abthorpe) off that. Stay on it until you reach Wappenham (about 5 miles) then first left in village (Brookside) and the car park is 150 yards on right.

● Bill McDonald, pictured left, had around 150lb of carp (13 doubles) on one visit with one 12-8 fish, fairly hooked on corn, taking an amazing, timed, 55 minutes to beat on 5lb line and light carp rod.

Back for more he had some 70lb of tench, bream and carp...including a 7-8 mirror on a BARE hook while plumping up. Wappenham can be like that on its day!



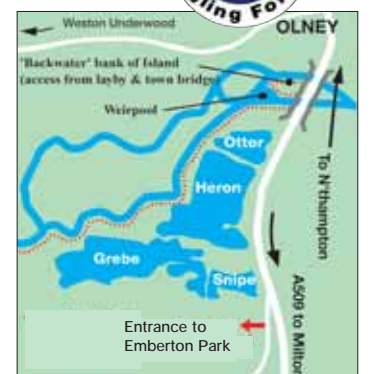
Colin Page got into a shoal of skimmers on a summer's day



Bill McDonald with a 12-8 Wappenham carp which took 55 minutes to land!



Trevor Johnson and a double on floating crust



Day tickets: **MKAA members**
April 1 to Oct 30: Adult (aged 17 or over) **£4.50**, concessions (rod licence proof) **£4.00**, evenings (after 4pm) **£3.50**. Nov 1 to March 31: **£4.00** all categories.

Day tickets: **Non-MKAA members**
April 1 to Oct 30: Adult (aged 17 or over) **£6.50**, concessions (rod licence proof) **£5.50**, evenings (after 4pm) **£4.50**. Nov 1 to March 31: **£4.50** all categories.

To book matches on MKAA waters call 01908 222468

Find out more? Call 01908 270000/660579 or 01865 754189

These waters offer something for everyone - be they specci-folk, match people, beginners or leisure anglers, the...

Tiny Tear Drops can = BIG fish

Barely two-acres apiece - but the Tear Drops hold some mighty fish! Carp up to 30lb have been caught over the past year, having worked their way down the Loughton Brook from Furzton and thrived in their new home. Again probably from Furzton, there's a fair head of chub to 4lb+, particularly in TD number 1.

Periodic winter flooding sees all four mini-lakes become one, but it is surprising how each continues to exhibit distinctive characters.

No 1 and 4 for example can be great autumn and winter roach fisheries with high double-figure bags of pound roach always on the cards, while number 2 holds lots of bream.

Tench to more than 6 lb can turn up in any of them, with slabs of a similar size.



Fishing is from permanent pegs only on three of the four waters (the fourth - the third in line working away from the National Bowl - is a non-fishing bird sanctuary).

The Tear Drops can provide good sport whatever the time of year. Access is from the two car parks off Davey Avenue.

- Left: James Limbert with a 21lb Tear Drops common. Carp 10lb heavier than that have been caught there.

- Tear Drop 2 has benefitted from more than 1,000 roach and several hundred skimmers, part-funded by our Parks Trust landlord.

PLEASE NOTE: Reciprocal arrangements with North Oxford and Letchworth ONLY allow members of those clubs to fish MKAA's canal on those tickets. On ALL other MKAA waters an MKAA season or dayticket is required.

MKAA contacts

WANT to know who's responsible for what, need help or want to give your feedback?

(all numbers 01908 prefix unless otherwise stated).

Chairman: Trevor Johnson 270000 (07801 183381).

Vice chairman: Gary Maton 662546.

General secretary: Bob Final 01865 754189 (07875 593481).

Youth team : Ian Greenhood 503587 (07775 518866).

Match sec: Bob Valentine 674820.

Fixture secretary: Bas Brunning 222468.

Training & education: Nuala Gray 320007.

Head bailiff: Stuart Pemberton 660579.

Assistant head bailiff: Bill Bradshaw 677724.

Fisheries officer: Phil Oxley 562680.

Water quality: Ray House 226007.

Officer for the disabled: Brian Sapsford 608944.

Access officer: Andy Walker 07960 092636

Bankside maintenance: Den Reid 07889 754423.

Join the good old boys...

MK's Veterans are the ultimate party animals - so long as they still have the puff to blow out a candle!

And when Ted Brown hit the big eight-oh (he's moved on to 81 since this picture was taken) the rest of the lads staged a 7am bankside party, with TWO cakes, prior to that day's match.

They're like that, the Vets, always (usually) out for a crack

whatever the weather. And if you are aged 55 to whatever, you can join in their weekly matches held throughout the year on venues in and around MK.

With the pools at a couple of quid, the few rules include not taking it too seriously and NO spoddng - if you can see far enough for that you're probably there under false pretences!

Interested? Find out more from Terry on 01908 565446.



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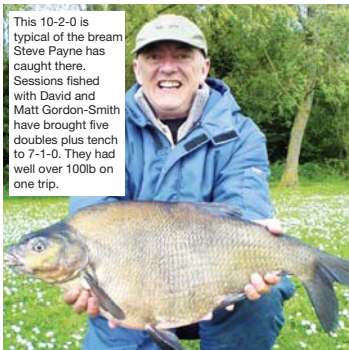
...FOR MILES AROUND...



Big waters which hold some mighty fish



Roger Stratton with 8-1 loved-up lady tench



This 10-2-0 is typical of the bream Steve Payne has caught there. Sessions fished with David and Matt Gordon-Smith have brought five doubles plus tench to 7-1-0. They had well over 100lb on one trip.



Furzton

Left: 'Mr Cool' Steve Vippond should look chuffed - this Furzton tench scaled 7-3-0 and, as he put it, "Was well worth the price of my dayticket." He hooked it 40 yards out on a white chocolate boilie during his first trip to the lake...and is very grateful to his mate for suggesting they give the place a try.



● Open all year, 3 rods on premium ticket.
● Please be civilised - other people live near the lake - see long-stay angling etiquette on page 8

Caldecotte

Tench and bream into double figures, carp probably into the 40s, big pike, perch, roach and hybrids - 90 acre Caldecotte Lake has the lot. Fish spotters have been rewarded with some outstanding catches. On the right day 100 lb+ of big slabs is not out of the question...and there are several such catches most years.

Depth averages around 12 feet and the fish are often right under your feet. It has produced MKAA's roach (3-0-0) and pike (30-4-0) records.

● In recent years the EA has spent £15,000 on fish breeding areas to boost overall stocks, and MKAA has added two batches of small fast-growing 'Supa-carp'.

● Caldecotte is one of the easiest lakes to find in MK, just look for the windmill (pictured right) on top of the lakeside pub at the south end of the A5 dual carriageway.



● Open all year, 3 rods on premium ticket.



The north lake



3-12 January perch

FROM monster carp to chunky roach - Furzton is quite possibly MKAA's most exciting 'stillwater'...heaving with fish of all shapes, sizes and species.

Though well-known for its ever-growing carp, it is also a cracking conventional match venue - with a growing reputation for its shoals of bream - which also really comes into its own as a specimen and pleasure fishery.

Other species include stillwater chub to at least 5 lb, big bream, tench to more than 8, perch pushing 4 and mega shoals of big roach.

It was chosen as the venue for two world championships so far (the veterans and the ladies) and a 48 hour British Carp Championship final producing half a tonne of fish.

A strong, consistent wind is usually a help and if you can catch it when it blowing into the hotel corner for a few days, then bites on feeder can be too frequent for it to be practical to use more than one rod...they CAN come that fast - and to nothing fancier than worm, caster and maggot!

WARNING: No bivvies on Furzton July 2 & 3 2011 due to event at the nearby bowl. It's part of Parks Trust bid to stop concert-goers camping around lake.



Above: the old 'uns are the best, and Geoff Ringer proves it again with another fine bag in a Furzton Festival match - see back page for details of this year's charity series.

PLEASE do NOT park in Bilbrook Lane on Furzton. It's a discipline offence and can lead to a ban. Use the car park or get dropped off instead. Thanks.



What a start! With some guidance from Mark Crompton, 11 year-old Reece Preston's first carp went 19lb.



Young Kimberly Wooley gets a helping hand with her Furzton 11-8

Bradwell

When Bradwell Lake's big tench and bream come hard on feed they can provide some tackle - and arm - testing sport.

But the 26 acre maturing gravel pit has more to offer than that. Fast-growing carp stocked a few years ago are now into double figures, but do not dominate the fishery.

There are also big shoals of roach. With so much natural food to chomp on they can prove elusive, but when you do connect pound+ fish can be the norm.

The bream run to double figures and this spring a 10-2 tench fell to corn - but the captor didn't have it properly witnessed and the sole photo was a nightmare.

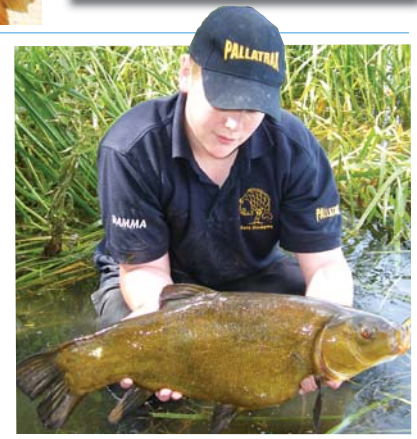
Perch (some up to 3 lb+) are present along with rudd, pike to 20+, chub, dace and even the odd gudgeon.

MKAA owns the 40 acre Bradwell site which includes a quarter mile of Great Ouse which borders part of MKAA's Bradwell canal section.

Work carried out so far includes: adding around 1.75 tons of fish, building carparks and access road, 33 concrete top pegs and access paths to wheelchair standard, and weed control in the lake.

Including purchase, the complex has cost more than £170,000...over £100,000 of which has come from lottery and Environment Agency grants.

● Pictured right is MKAA's 9-10 official record tench, caught from Bradwell by Matt Hodges. Over several sessions he also had an 8-10 and 18 others from 2 to 6lb...plus 92



bream...the biggest being 10-6 and 9-14, with eight more 9s and "lots" between 7 and 8lb plus two carp about 4lb each, totalling 115 fish - 84 of them in one session!

● Open all year, 3 rods on premium ticket.

Prologis-Enterprize-Ron Thompson-okuma-Nash-DAIWA-Mepps-Shakespeare-Rapala-ABU-Waterline-Shimano-Maver-Drennan-Masterline-Humminbird-ESP-Fox-Flambeau-Pure Fishing

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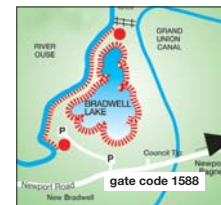
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Browns Angling Centre
Grovebury Rd **Leighton Buzzard**
LU7 4UX - 01525 216370

WILLARD'S
47 Newport Rd, **New Bradwell, MK13 0AQ**
(less than a mile from Bradwell Lake) 01908 225353

SEAHAWK SUPPLIES
4 Castle Street, **BUCKINGHAM**
MK18 1BS 01280 817807
Tackle/specialist trophy service

GILDERS TACKLE
250-252 Wellingborough Road
NORTHAMPTON NN1 4EJ
01604 636723 and at
32 Montagu Street
KETTERING NN16 8RU 01536 514509

GONE-FISHIN
26 Church Street
Wolverton, MK12 5JN
01908 313158

LESLIE'S TACKLE
89-93 Park Street, **LUTON LU1 3HG**
01582 453542 Fax 01582 735740
& www.leslies-luton.co.uk

POLLUTION
If you see fish dead, dying or in distress, oil on water etc, please call Ray on 07768 446796 or another committee member - **QUICK! AND Environment Agency Emergency freephone 0800 80 70 60**

Browns Angling Centre
Thame Road, **Haddenham**
HP17 8BY - 01844 290663

Jakeman's Sports & Tackle
5 Bourbon Street
Aylesbury HP20 2PZ
01296 486613

Carpin Capers
53-54 Barrack Road
Northampton NN1 3RL
01604 634115

J & K TACKLE
62/64 Sheep Street
BICESTER OX26 6LG
01869 242589

RULE Re fishing match venues!

● IF a match is booked (see list below) ALL anglers must be OFF that section by the preceding midnight. The ONLY exceptions are for evening events in which case you must be gone by 12 noon on the day of the match.

FURZTON LAKE
12/07 A+B 1730-2200
14/07 B 1700-2000
24/07 A+B 0700-1300
24/07 C 0700-1330
27/07 A+B+C 0700-1300
29/07 A+B+C 1200-2400
30/07 A+B+C ALL DAY
31/07 A+B+C 0000-1800
07/08 C 0700-1300
09/08 C 0930-1530
14/08 ALL 0700-1300
24/08 A+B+C 0600-1500
26/08 A+B+C 0600-1700
27/08 A+B+C ALL DAY
28/08 A+B+C ALL DAY
29/08 A+B+C ALL DAY
04/09 All ALL DAY
11/09 ALL ALL DAY
28/09 A+B+C 0700-1300
01/10 A+B+C ALL DAY
02/10 A+B ALL DAY
04/04/12 A+B+C 0700-1300

WAPPENHAM LAKE
10/07 ALL ALL DAY
BRADWELL LAKE
05/07 C 0930-1530
10/07 C 0700-1300
CALDECOTE LAKE
18/09 C 0800-1400

TEARDROPS LAKES
03/07 ALL 0700-1400
09/07 1+2 1200-1800
17/07 ALL 0730-1300
19/07 2 0930-1530
24/07 2 0800-1500
31/07 ALL 0730-1300
07/08 ALL 0700-1400
20/08 2 1300-1600
28/08 1 0700-1400
04/09 1+2 ALL DAY
04/09 4 0800-1300
11/09 ALL ALL DAY
18/09 1+2 0800-1300
13/11 1 0900-1500
09/05/12 ALL 0700-1300
30/05 ALL 0700-1300

LOGDE LAKE
03/07 ALL 0700-1400
17/07 ALL 0730-1300
26/07 A+C 1730-2200
31/07 ALL 0730-1300
03/08 ALL 0700-1300
06/08 A+C 1200-1800
21/08 A+C 0700-1300
21/08 D 0800-1300
04/08 A+C 0700-1300
04/09 D 0800-1400
11/09 ALL ALL DAY

O/U OUZEL
04/12 ALL 0800-1400
15/01/12 ALL 0800-1400
04/03 ALL 0800-1400

CALDECOTE OUZEL
30/10 ALL 0830-1430
RAVENSTONE MILL
11/09 ALL 0800-1500

STONE PARK
09/10 ALL 0700-1400
16/10 ALL 0900-1400
13/11 ALL 0830-1430
20/11 ALL 0800-1300
27/11 ALL 0800-1500
03/12 ALL 0800-1400
04/12 ALL ALL DAY
08/01/12 ALL 0800-1430
22/01 ALL 0800-1430
05/02 ALL 0800-1430
12/02 ALL 0730-1530
19/02 ALL 0800-1430
04/03 ALL ALL DAY

WHITINGS FARM
23/10 ALL 0700-1400
03/12 ALL 0800-1400
04/12 ALL ALL DAY
22/01/12 ALL 0700-1400
04/03 ALL ALL DAY
11/03 ALL 0730-1530

TOOMBES MEADOW
29/06 ALL 0700-1300
11/09 ALL 0800-1500
14/09 ALL 0700-1300
08/10 ALL 1200-1800
06/10 ALL 0830-1430
06/11 ALL 0800-1430
09/11 ALL 0800-1300
20/11 ALL ALL DAY
03/12 ALL 0800-1400
14/12 ALL 0800-1300
28/12 ALL 0800-1300
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15/02 ALL 0800-1300
19/02 ALL 0800-1430
07/03 ALL 0800-1300
10/03 ALL 0830-1430
14/03 ALL 0800-1300

JEAN HOLLANDS
08/10 ALL 1200-1800
16/10 ALL 0830-1430
23/10 ALL 0900-1300
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20/11 ALL ALL DAY
27/11 ALL 0830-1430
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10/03 ALL 0830-1430
14/03 ALL 0800-1300

BRUSH MILL
18/09 ALL 0800-1500
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05/02 ALL 0800-1430
15/02 ALL 0800-1300
19/02 ALL 0800-1430
10/03 ALL 0830-1430
14/03 ALL 0800-1300

CANAL
05/07 15A+B 1730-2200
10/07 3B ALL DAY
16/07 7A-11B ALL DAY
19/07 14B-15A 1730-2200
24/07 1A+1B 0700-1300
31/07 1A-5B ALL DAY
10/08 2B+3A 0700-1300
28/08 15A+B 0700-1400
03/09 ALL ALL DAY
17/09 1B 1300-1600
20/09 5A+B 0930-1530
24/09 11A+B 1200-1800
02/10 2B 0800-1400
02/10 14B+15A 0900-1500
16/10 1A+B 0900-1500
19/10 15A+B 0800-1400
22/10 3B 1300-1600
30/10 15A+B 0800-1500
13/11 1A+B 0730-1530
20/11 1A+B ALL DAY
20/11 11A+B 0800-1500
30/11 13A 0800-1400
03/12 1B 1300-1600
04/12 1A+B 0800-1500
04/12 12A-15B ALL DAY
11/12 1B 0800-1500
11/12 12A-15B ALL DAY
28/12 14B-15A 0800-1400
04/01/12 1A+B 0800-1400
08/01 1A-2A 0930-1430
08/01 15A+B 0730-1530
11/01 13A 0800-1400
22/01 1A-2A 0930-1430
29/01 3A+B 0800-1500
05/02 1A-2A 0930-1430
08/02 15A+B 0800-1400
15/02 13A 0800-1400
19/02 1A-2A 0930-1430
22/02 1B-2A 0800-1400
26/02 1A+B ALL DAY
26/02 7A+B 0800-1500
28/03 1B-2A 0800-1400
15/04 1A-2A 0700-1300
18/04 15A+B 0800-1400
29/04 3A+B 0700-1300
02/05 2B-3A 0800-1400
13/05 7A+B 0700-1300
27/05 10A+B 0700-1300

Getting it right from the start

Thousands of youngsters have had a taste of what our sport has to offer through 'Come and Try' sessions run by MKAA head coach Nuala Gray and her team of qualified angling coaches.

And hundreds more have benefited from various teaching sessions - theory and practical - held on local waters.

Not only do the latter make them better anglers, but in so many cases instruction in both basics and more advanced techniques has helped them go on to catch more fish than they might otherwise have done.

Nuala is pictured with angling proficiency certificate winners Tom and Adam (MKAA's youngest-ever 'graduate' at the age of 5) and is happy to arrange coaching for all ages - not just juniors - and can be



reached on 01908 320007.

Knows what she's on about does Nuala - making the top six in this year's Angling Trust ladies' national on the Kennet & Avon to prove it.

Bankside etiquette for all...

Fishing can be fun but long (more than a few hours) and after-dark sessions can bring their own needs. So please avoid causing nuisance and problems for others by following this simple code of behaviour:

- Please:**
- Keep the noise low, cause minimum disturbance to other anglers and nearby residents, and only park in permitted places.
 - Keep your peg tidy (including after dark) with rubbish bagged up ready to be taken home for disposal.
 - Make some decent toilet arrangements...that is not what the bushes are for.

Get a lift home or to a pub or whatever, while a mate looks after your kit, or have facilities inside your bivvy. Remember the old saying: leave only footprints!

If someone abides by the above then angling has a long and happy future on MKAA waters. Thank you.

Swift action saves a fishery

Urban spacemen? No - they are Environment Agency fisheries staff saving fish which were dying in the aftermath of last winter's big freeze.



When the thaw brought melt water pouring into Dimmocks, it stirred up so much rotting leaf matter that it took out what little oxygen had been left in a corner which had been iced over for weeks. Several hundred silver fish and a small number of double figure carp perished where the stream flowed in.

But it would have been much worse had the EA's Justin Mould and Paul Wilkonowski not spent a Saturday pumping in diluted hydrogen peroxide. Mixed with water the bleach (hence the expression 'peroxide blonde') breaks down into water...and oxygen, and they raised the dissolved oxygen content from 8 per cent to 30 and rising - a level fish can survive in.

Rotting leaves can be a serious problem in heavily treed areas, and MKAA is to clear the vegetation back and treat the deadly silt before any future stocking.

● During prolonged freeze-ups it helps if you keep an area ice-free to maximise oxygenation, but try not to disturb the deadly silt too much!

● Catches show the bulk of the fish survived - thanks to Justin and Paul.

DANGER OF DEATH!

Take care - ELECTRICITY CAN KILL YOU!

YOU don't have to touch a cable - just get near enough for the voltage to jump the gap!

So DON'T fish any closer than 30 metres (33 yards) to ANY cable.

Before starting to fish, look UP to check there are no cables nearby.



CANAL FISHING CODE OF PRACTICE

ANGLERS PLEASE:

- Catapulting groundbait is BANNED opposite boats at Boatyard
- DON'T loose feed decks hulls with groundbait, it can cause paint damage. Use pole cup if you must feed close to boats.
- DON'T bounce tackle off boats or tap them with pole tips - chipped paint costs money to repair and hooks in ropes can put innocent people in hospital.
- DO minimise noise, including bite alarms, especially when people on boats are trying to sleep.
- Do be discrete when answering the call of nature

THIS code is agreed with British Waterways for the benefit of all with special reference to where boats are moored opposite...ESPECIALLY on the Boatyard!

ANGLERS AND BOATERS

- DO behave reasonably and courteously at all times.
- DON'T leave litter or light fires.
- PLEASE DO keep children and dogs under control.

BOATERS PLEASE:

- DON'T when moored run engines or disturb the water in any way while people are fishing.
- DO keep to the centre of the channel and within the speed limit (4 mph) when cruising.
- DO moor well clear of anglers, on the towpath side, where users have priority on first come first served basis.

...YOUR SUPPORT HELPS...

Big fish section is the 'pride of the Upper Ouse'

There is something really special about Adams Mill...a mysterious X factor which appears to help most species grow that bit bigger than in the majority of others.

For a long time it was famed for producing UK record barbel – until the otter plague went through – setting half a dozen new highs up to 21lb!

Then the chub waxed fat, with fish like Del Burton's 8-2 (front page) and this 7-9, a summer cracker bagged by Dick Bateman on maggot feeder. But there's more to Adams than that. It's also the home of some impressive

ADAMS

Mill

roach (2lb+), dace over 1lb (Dick, again), perch to 4+ and the odd log-like pike...and still a few big barbel.

Just as importantly last autumn, in common with many other stretches of the upper river, it produced mega shoals of chublets, dace, bleak and roach in the 3 to 4 inch class – which bodes well for the future.

Also for the future, the EA's Paul Wilkanowski is pictured stocking 500 small barbel into Adams.

The mini-fish had been reared at the Agency's Calverton fish farm, and another 500 went in further downstream...so perhaps one day Adams will be back to setting UK records again.

● Open to all MKAA season ticket members, Adams has a few special rules: **No day tickets; no more than 15 on the land at any one time; NO NIGHT fishing; and please don't disturb the farmer** – see www.mkaa.co.uk for details.



Then there's the Tove & Ouzel

Small in size...but big on fish, that's the little rivers Ouzel and Tove – both Great Ouse tributaries.

They offer year-round sport with everything from gudgeon to carp, and with fish worthy of far larger rivers.

They can turn out roach to 2 lb, 7 lb bream, perch of 4 – or perhaps more – chub over 6 and pike on the 20 mark.

You might also hook a tench, an escapee trout, or amuse yourself with dace, gudgeon and bits, while on the

Ouzel (especially behind Willen Lake) you might latch into a double-figure barbel.

On the **TOVE** MKAA has the Long Field (half a mile of bank and, upstream of the Cosgrove/Castlethorpe road) it seems to be a long series of fish-holding swims.

On the magical **Ouzel** you can fish from Sparkes Meadow (just north of the Fenny bypass) downstream to the Watling Street, and then from alongside Caldecotte Lake most of the way – LEFT hand bank – through Milton Keynes past the OU and Willen Lake to the M1 bridge and, from there, switch to the RIGHT hand bank for one field downstream of the M1.

Pictured right is canny lad Ken Gates. Winter before last he made six roving Ouzel trips to bag an amazing 34 chub. He topped one outing with a 6-6 – and had 11 others over 5lb that winter. Not bad for a little river.

Travel light – a bike can help cover more swims in a day – and have fun!



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Old Father Thames (& others)

The waters around Oxford are something special and, generally, only an hour's drive from MK.

But please be on your best behaviour. These waters are made available to **MKAA members courtesy of North Oxford Angling Society and MUST be treated with the UTMOST RESPECT.**

● The Thames, Cherwell, Seacourt Stream and even the Oxford Canal have characters of their own, and the arrangement for MKAA members to fish these NOAS waters helps make your association card a winner.

There are also Oxford and District AA waters which can be fished on dayticket. Want to know more? Call NOAS's Andy Crisp, on 01865 53800.

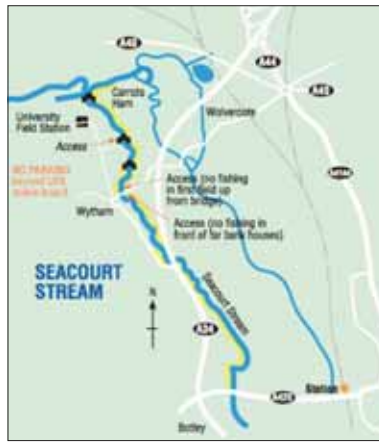
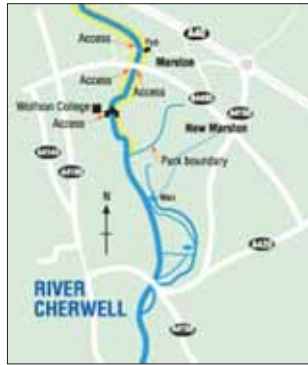
● MKAA members can't hold matches on NOAS waters and **NIGHT FISHING IS**

NOT allowed on their waters.

If you use this system please be a good MKAA ambassador...you are a guest on someone else's patch.

CHERWELL (approx 1 mile)

Access West bank from Marston Ferry Link Road B4495 (see OS map for route from A34 Peartree interchange) from either cycle track or footpath shown; downstream of bridge (access from bridge) one meadow, upstream three meadows. East bank: upstream two meadows above Victoria pub; and downstream to park boundary fence opposite Wolfson College.



SEACOURT STREAM (approx 3.5 miles)

Access from Wolvercote to Wytham Village road bridge (see OS map). East bank: NO fishing opposite far bank houses (south side of bridge) and NO fishing in first meadow (north side of bridge).

Access also from track leading to University Field Station. Follow road from Wolvercote into Wytham and turn right, take track towards UFS, park on verge just BEFORE notice board (no parking or turning beyond it). Walk across field to stream. Crossing bridge over stream gives access to Kings Lock/Kings Weir Thames area.

OXFORD CANAL (approx 4.5 miles)

Fishing towpath side from Hythe Bridge Street in Oxford, north to Bullers Bridge in Yarn Lane, Kiddlington and Plough Inn at Wolvercote good access points for first time visitors ■

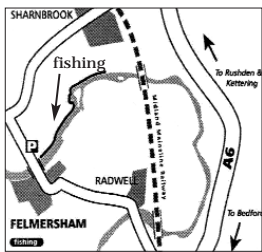


And more on the Ouse, too

A section of the Felmersham Ouse is available to MKAA season ticket holders courtesy of Letchworth AC.

Chub, roach, bream and the occasional whiskers – though they do move around a bit – are all part of the potential action there.

If taking advantage of the arrangement please be on your best behaviour as we are guests on these waters.



Wolverton Mill

MKAA's Wolverton Mill fishery is two tiny storm water lakes with just over a dozen pegs between them (see the map below).

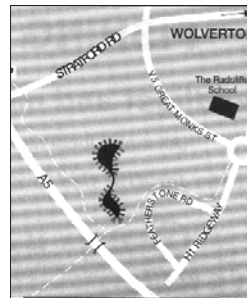
And they are heaving with carp of all sizes, including crucians – which mean it can be a real fun fishery popular with all ages.

Have fun and keep it simple, this isn't a multiple rods and bolt-rig water.

No night fishing, and no keepnets in the interests of fish welfare.

● This year MKAA has installed yellow topped concrete peg markers and fishing is not allowed from anywhere but in the immediate vicinity of those markers.

● Traditional close season – March 15 to June 15 inclusive – applies.



Take a tip from Neil on 'hot' perch



Fancy a big perch from the river? Well you don't have to wait until winter to get your wish. Neil Atkins, who has had quite a

number of Ouse stripeys of 4lb or more, had this 3 pounder – and others – in the middle of a hot summer's day. Just go for it.

For more about MKAA, its waters & how to join, call: Trevor Johnson 01908 270000, Stuart Pemberton 01908 660579 or Bob Final 01865 754189

Tickets: £35 standard season (£27 from secs of affiliated clubs). Juniors £17 (£13). Reg disabled, senior citizens £20 (£16)

Daytickets: on the bank: £5 (£2.50 for concessions) midnight to midnight

Write to: MKAA, PO Box 3195, Milton Keynes, MK3 6ZY or...go to our website – www.mkaa.co.uk – where you can join on-line at no extra cost.

Want to keep up with big catches, which waters' are fishing etc?

Call our recorded info line on **01908 691777** standard BT

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...PUTS INTO THE SPORT.

On the GREAT Ouse

The past two winters have been dire...but that hasn't stopped the Ouse producing great catches for those lucky - or skilful - enough to do the business.

Chub to 6 or 7lb+ (an 8 at Adams) 4lb perch, bream to 7, good dace and roach plus some hefty pike have all been out on the banks from Stony to Ravenstone.

And some came up trumps in the opening days of this season, too - like Andy Warren (right) with a new personal best 6-7 as he took **FIVE 6s** from Whittings on floating bread!

Curling around Stony Stratford, New Bradwell and Wolverton, the Ouse is generally shallowish, pacy, and full of surprises.

Wolverton Mill (upstream of the Galleon canal

aqueduct) Whittings (down to the Haversham railway viaduct) and **Stone Park** (on downstream to New Bradwell) and **behind Bradwell Lake** can, on their day, produce sport Mr Crabtree would have lusted after.

Barbel, stocked by MKAA over a decade ago, have flourished and **Wolverton Mill/Whittings**, have produced them to 19-4. Most sections are better known for huge chub, big bream, perch, roach and pike. The abominable signal crayfish is also present.

Stone Park held the association's chub record at 7-12-0 until the end of last season, has the odd big whiskers and can occasionally produce good roach nets along with some nice-sized dace.

Throughout the upper river chub and perch feed on

pike, dace and fine perch.

Downstream of the weir the river is fast and streamy (great for walking and stalking) while the deeper water upstream can yield big carp washed out of river-side lakes.

Like most of the Ouse it can be very weedy in summer but, casting between the weeds can work! Watch out for undercut banks and, if in the water, sudden drop offs into unexpectedly deep holes. **No daytickets on Ravenstone.**

■ **Note:** all English rivers subject to March 15-June 15 (inclusive) legal close season - stick to it or explain yourself to magistrates.

crayfish, and the stripeys can top 4 lb. A few seasons back a match was won with 8 perch for more than 15 lb on worm on Brush Mill.

There's even the odd tench...and the four hour MKAA river match record is 78 lb of slab-sided bream to 7-13-0.

From Calverton Road picnic area (no swimming) and boat slipway down to Stony weir is free fishing. Then it's **Brush Mill** - the backwater can fish well in flood - then **Holland's Field** (one meadow) to Toombes' which curves round to Old Stratford river bridge on the V4 Watling Street.

Below that is no go unless you have a Deanshanger & The Stratfords' card, until you get to the top of **Wolverton Mill**.

The 2011 Hangover open on Jan 1 saw the river close to full flood, But that didn't stop Gary Britton finding a bream shoal in a slack on Toombes for a runaway win with 14-1. It was a bad, bad day for the rest with 1-11-8 runner up.

● **Ravenstone Mill** is a superb big barbel fishery with fish to 17lb-ish reported...and it's a fair bet there are larger ones yet to be caught. There are also good chub, certainly into the 6s, bream,



Andy Warren with PB 6-7 summer Ouse chub



● Hangover winner Gary Britton



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Saturday 8.30 am to 5.00 pm

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Fishing for Willen Hospice

Over the past few years the Furzton Festival has raised thousands and thousands of pounds for Willen Hospice.

And a lot of people have had a lot of fun along the way!

Here's hoping this year's event (see dates in panel) will continue that tradition - whatever the weather has to offer.

A lot of hard work goes into each festival (organisation of which is led by MKAA secretary Bob Final) but the people who are really responsible for its success are all those who turn up to fish and contribute their money to the worthy cause.

The fishing can usually be good too, as the events tend to co-incide with the bream shoals coming on feed. Last year saw the late

Terry Tapp top the Frank Swan (a former MKAA vice



What it is all about - association vice chairman Gary Maton presents last year's festival cheque to Willen Hospice's Lynne Gorman at the AGM

president) memorial open with 111-7 - a new MKAA five hour match record - having set the previous record in the same event two years earlier with 104lb.

And England Veterans manager Joe Roberts (right) showed his mettle by winning last year's Ken Ball match with 30 bream for 71-4.

Why not have a go?

The matches are open to all comers providing they meet entry criteria in the case of those which are for the disabled or, in the that of former MKAA president Ken Ball's Memorial, the over 55s.



MKAA has been awarded ClubMark status - acknowledging that its people and operations all meet rigorous standards.



Car-driving anglers beware!

MK Council has adopted powers making it an expensive ticket offence to park on any pavement/verge alongside a public highway in the borough. This is likely to be enforced with particular vigour on the H5/H6 (Portway/Childs Way) in the vicinity of Willen Lake.

Dates for THIS year's Furzton Festival

Frank Swan Memorial Open
Aug 29: call R Swan 01908 506678

Ladies Open
Oct 1: call N Gray 01908 320007

Young People's Match
Aug 20: call N Gray 01908 320007

Ken Ball Memorial Open
Aug 24: (over 55s) call: T Valentine 01908 565446

Match for the Disabled
Aug 26: call B Sapsford 01908 608944

Victor Wright Memorial Open
Aug 27: 24 hour match
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