

Good old canal comes up trumps for MK winter league final round!

MK Angling Centre scooped three of the top four places in Sunday's final round...but it was GoneFishin which took the MK winter league title!

With the match on the cut – postponed from the river due to flooding weeks earlier – hopes of good weights were not high.

But the snow and rain-lashed match produced, at 3-8, the highest average weight per man of the series.

Paul Abbott (GF) had 7-13-8 of skimmers from the Red Lion end followed by MKAC men Mark Haynes 7-4 and Paul Neave (Willowbridge area) with 6-3 which included a 1lb crucian.

Final league positions: GF 57, MKAC 51, Raiders 50, Ampthill 46, Olney 14.

Abbott was series individual champ – four section wins in a row – with 20 points, one ahead of MKAC's Ernie Sattler.

Best wishes to Terry Lancaster and John Hewison (ages a state secret) who are in this weekend's England vets' team trials.



● Rob Buckner's last gasp 7-6

What a spotty! Gary Maton (pictured below) blued part of his John Lewis bonus, LOL, on a trip to the Hampshire Test for this 6-12 sea trout, plus some grayling and brown trout, while trotting sweetcorn using a 'pin.



● Gary Maton and 6-12 sea trout

Despite water temperatures of just 2 degrees... the last day of the river season saw some landing cracking fish.

On the Towcester Tove (10 metres bank-to-bank at its widest) Mick Goodridge pole-fished for an incredible 25 chub – fish from 2 to 4lb and totalling a stunning 60lb plus – and lost five others. He could have had more... but had to stop to go and collect his kids!

On the Whittings Ouse Rob Buckner (pictured left) used his trusty stinky cheese and garlic paste to tempt a 7-6 chub.

And having had a 5-10

from Adam's Mill the previous day, I fished Passenham Meadow to land the 4-14, 4-8 and 4-2 pictured below. The smaller two came on consecutive casts using punch on 6 metre whip (NO elastic) and 2lb bottom, which was a tad nerve-testing...

Fixtures: no fishing on Lodge and Wolverton Mill until June 16; Alders' Easter festival March 29 to 31, 07860 235655; April 14, MKAA canal league teams of 4 starts, 07703 556788.



● And me...

Matches, catches, even rough patches? If there's a tale to tell call Trevor Johnson on 01908 270000 (office) or 07801 183381 or email angling@intermediauk.com (click link to email)