

Fish feed in 'weekend from hell'

THAT was a piscatorial weekend from hell as seemingly a year's rain came lashing down in a few days, washing out matches and killing tackleshop trade stone dead.

Sadly, all too much too quickly – 'the wrong kind of rain' – it was flash-flooding away before doing much for the desperately low underground aquifers feeding rivers longer term.

But, as usual, some enduring the storm were rewarded... as was Chris Garrett who had a runaway win in Sunday's Castle Ashby Grendon match with 10 carp for 90-2 on meat. Steve Bull made 42-12 and Kevin Folwell 30-6.

Saturday's not quite so wet Brickyard match had gone to Paul Hardman with 59-14 of tench and bream as Pete Lovell netted 49-6 and Mick Hewlett 38-4. Midweek on Grendon had seen Gary Millward on 49-12 with Bob Reed 35-6 and Hardman 34-2.

● STILL on a roll at Meadowlands Wayne Sharman blitzed Tuesday's open with 164-12 of carp to 17lb on pole and corn as Pete Heaven had 97lb and Alan Walton 61-14.

But he had to settle for overall runner's-up spot in the Lanes league on the same venue – three points adrift of Neil Russell – after Sunday's final round went to Ian Lilystone on 71lb with Russell 61-10 and Mark Stibbs 59-6.

Loll Summers on 66lb and Mark Carter 43lb.

● DAVENTRY lads suffered tackle breakages galore at wind-lashed Tofts... but their biggest problem was getting away post-match as the nearby river flooded the exit road. In-between times Paul Knappa had 41-4 of carp with Richie Wills 26-12 and Colin Youlds 25-12.

● WATERLOO saw Andy Anderson win Loco's match with 38-6. Steve Billings had 26-8 and Jamie Parrish 19-10.

● A 28-4 barbel and crucian net put Dave Chamberlain top of Little Harrowden's Peatling Parva do. Stan Atter 22-10 and Mick Dudely 21-8.

● ANDY FORBES topped town's Royal Mail club Shearsby Valley Lakes sweep with 22-10 of carp. Paul Hardman had 15-14 and Dave Gibbs 6lb.

● WHITE Hart Flore's Bishops Bowl outing went to Dave Smart, 22-8, with Gary Muddiman on 18lb and Ron Collins 14lb.

● FINEDON's Yoke Hill Farm, Oundle, trip saw Paul Moore net 22-8 of carp and roach. The rest probably wished they'd stayed home with Dave Ross 1-8 and Max Beck 1lb.



■ **HAPPY** chappy Gary Britton cradles his 'lifetime's best' 21-9 common, proving that matchmen can get among the lumps, too. He bagged his in an MK vets' sweep on Castle's Canons Ashby, but still finished out of the frame as Ernie Sattler had 54-12, Paul Barnes 48-8 and John Harvey 43-11. Picture John Hewison.

● WAPPENHAM Water midweek saw John Balhatchet win Towcester Vets' do with 12-5. Tosh Saunders netted 7-6 – including a 3-8 barbel – and George Cooke 7-4 of roach.

● SUNDAY on Wappenham Steve Smith was top Flore & Brockall rod with carp, and roach to 1-2-8, for 10-12. Rob Rawlins had 5-10 and Gareth Abrahams (called away early) 5-3.

● IT was perch or nowt in Cotton Club's Flore canal do. Dave Hadden won with 8-10 followed by Rus Lay 2-2 and Mark Annable 1-1.

● BROWNING teams dominated MKAA's spring league second round on Bletchley cut as, with a tree brought crashing down in the car park before the draw, two other teams decided not to fish.

Craig Bennett, Browning Gold, won with three bream for 7-9 as team-mate Matt Collerson had 6-11 and Black's Paul Cower (4th) 5lb. Black won on the day, 40 points, with MK Angling Centre 36 and Browning Red 33 – the latter now leading the league on 76.

● AND FINALLY: Towcester's float-only Bairstows open saw Mick Goodridge on 3-8 with Wayne Robinson 2-14 and Dave Martin 2lb... and then they had to wade out through a rapidly rising stream.

● FIXTURES: Tomorrow, Airflow Masters trout heat, Elinor, 07802 567205. Sunday, Towcester Bairstows open 01327 353263.

May 27, Harry Page memorial at Barby Banks, pegs available on 01604 831113.



■ **IS** he 'weathered' into a trance – or is Castle Ashby winner Chris Garrett dreaming of Sunday's pools pay out? Picture Mick Wheeler.

● STANWICK's big carp fest continues. Scott Talbot had a 34lb Elsons mirror with 'Dusan' getting a 32-8 and a 28. A week on Mallard saw Paddy Wheat total 36 carp to 21-12, two 6lb tench... and 10 bream to 10-10!

● OSPREY's trip to Pidley saw Ian Warby with 69lb with