

Island sharks 'swim with Mike'

'They can come up behind you...'

GLOBE-trotter Mike Green has been doing his own Extreme Fishing – flyfishing while seven foot sharks swim around his feet!

That's right. On the other side of the world, off Christmas Island, anglers stand in two-feet of seawater to cast – while hungry sharks try and beat them to their quarry.

"I don't think anyone's ever been eaten," said town's Mike, "but they can come up behind you, following the sand trail kicked up by your wading. If you prod them on the nose with your rod tip they usually beggar off.

"It can be a bit disturbing to start with, but you get used to them. This is not me being blasé or stupid, well, probably just a little bit stupid – but I find I fear house spiders more."

Personally I'd need cycle clips under those circumstances... and Mike's Sportfish tackle company mate Jonathan Tomlinson wasn't that impressed either.

"He was in two feet of water playing a 10lb trevally when a six or seven foot black tip came along and bit his fish in half. He went back to the boat after that," said Mike, who had giant trevally to 30lb and a 9lb PB bonefish on his trip.

Wonder if that's where Long John Silver got the need for a wooden leg?

● **BACK** home, following a fortnight's warm 'spring', water temperatures have plateaued at around 10 degrees for weeks, and if anything are being depressed by current conditions.

Likely outcome is delayed spawning, and lack of algal blooms meaning clear waters, easily spooked fish and over-abundant weed growth. 'Summer' fishing, anyone?

● **COTTON AA's** Castle Ashby Grendon midweeker saw Rus Lay win with a dozen carp and bream for 112-6 with Marcus Annable on 87-



■ **A TOUCH more sedate** – Andy Babanowski with 12lb Ringstead rainbow.



■ **EXTREME fishing!** Mike Green kneels in tropical surf to display his fly-caught 30lb giant trevally.

Nice, but – curiously – the local tourism website doesn't mention the 1950s atom bomb tests... or sharks 'swimming with anglers'!

open fell to Keith Garrett with 112-4 followed by John Kent 65-12 and Steve Dorkes 48-12. Mick Hewlett had won the previous day on the Brickyard with 48lb and topped the midweek Grendon do with 78-8.

He'd been followed, Saturday, by Chris Garrett 47lb and Paul Hardman 46-4, and on Wednesday by Hardman 59-4 and Simon Egan 49-12.

● **ROYAL Oak's** Makins do went to Karl Mullen 87-12 with Ron Savage 83-6 and Gary Powney 77lb. **WHITE Hart Flore's** Spring Pools sweep was won by Paul Jackson on 77lb followed by John Berry 65lb and Robin Wickham 48-4.

● **PHIL RINGER** is through to the £5,000 Matchfishing Cup's final 32 (don't ask about Geoff) after a 2nd with 17-5 of caster-maggot bream in the Fazeley canal heat. **CRAIG GANNON** had a 23-11 common at Stanwick and Matt Hinchon a 22-4.

● **LOCO, Barby Marshes:** Jamie Parrish 46-12, Roy Quayle 31-8, Andy Anderson 22-12. **ROYAL Mail** Northampton, Makins: Mark Forbes 42-10, Paul Hardman 37-15,

Mick Gibbs 36-14.

● **DAVENTRY,** Tofts silverfish lake: Gaynor Mills 32-12 (she won the £50 golden peg, too), Gill Corns 24-14, Mick Turner 20lb. **LITTLE Harrowden,** Chapmans, Cranford: Mick Duddley 27-14, Ken Taylor 25-12, Dave Charles 23-8.

● **CASTLE AA** silverfish league, Canons: Alan Pitt 26-8, Jeff Rice 21-12, Nick Antonacci 19lb. Rice won the series, 4 points, with Antonacci on 6. **OLD Kings Head 'Buckby,** Boddington: Dick Stafford 22-7, Rob Bailey 17-11, Roger Saunders 8-7.

● **TOWCESTER Vets:** Castlethorpe cut: John Balhatchett 15-5, Terry Robinson 6-5, Tosh Saunders 4-12. **NENE, Grafton canal willows:** Balhatchett again, 6-3, Andy Webster 6-1, Chris Howard/Dave Gibbins tied 5lb.

● **FLORE & Brockhall, Wappenham Water:** Fred Johnson 13-8, Steve Smith 8-9, Rob Rawlins 3-9. **OLD Kings Head** midweek, Welton cut: Ian Wills 5-14, Alan Knight 2-4, Harry Gawthorpe 1-9.

● **AND FINALLY:** Towcester were 'chip-shopped' (battered both sides) in third against winners Royal Mail, and Finedon, in a Peatling Pools Super-cup heat.

● **FIXTURES:** Sunday, Heyford open 01327 340002. May 27, Harry Page memorial at Barby Banks 01604 831113. June 1 to 4 Furzton lake, MK, closed for four days ■

3. Sunday's Cotton Club silverfish do on the same lake went to Danny Brown with 16-1 of roach as Roy Hickey had 14-8 and Martin Shaul 9-5.

● **ALSO** on G r e n d o n , Sunday's 'Ashby