As the brand new river season crawls off to a slow start... Big bream help save the day for some

CR most who tried their luck on running waters, the river season started Sunday with more of a whimper than a bang.

But some did get into decent fish – and one was Mick Dudley who stormed Mobbs Miller's match with 41-8 of Nene bream! as Gary Millward netted 55-4 followed by Dave Sinfield 31-4 and Bob Reed 25-14. Reed trumped that, Saturday on the same pond, with 48-4 'pastie' carp ahead of Chris Garrett 37-4 and Lloyd Haynes 37lb.

On Grendon, Sunday, it was Garrett's turn as he led

On the backwater behind Bluebell lakes he netted slabs to 6lb for a runaway win, while Dave Chamberlain had two for 11-10 and enough dace and chublets to total 17-10.

But it was normal service for the rest as Geoff Beeby was third with 4lb.

A fair number tried Olney's Ouse, mainly in the (largely unfulfilled) hope of barbel. Among those who caught Peter Lima had a 5-15 tench, Adam Short a 7-6 bream and Les Wallis a 2-14 perch.

Roger Stratton netted chub to 4-10 on bread at Newport, Monday, and I

had two roach for three-and-a-half ounces in as many hours on waggler near Stony...which put me in my place!

• On the carp pool match circuit Royal Oak's Wayne Sharman had a ball at Tofts with 144-4 with Jason Shirley on 103lb and Cliff Skyrne 76lb.

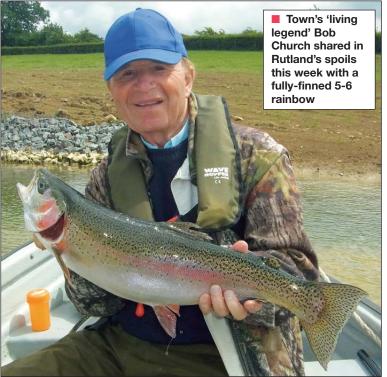
Sharman had already won Meadowlands midweeker with 80lb to Karl Mullen's 45-4 and Graham Beckwith's 37-6.

• Daventry plundered recently added stockies and F1s in Toft's 'silverfish' pond with Kevin Folwell on 87-4 followed by Ivan Mills 75-2 and Paul Knapman 64-12.

• Bucko's charity open circus hit The Riddings, over the county border in Warwickshire, where Fred Bispham was top with 79-14 ahead of Tony Ward 42-9 and Wayne Panting 41lb.

• Finedon's Cranford match produced a clear win for John Sumpter 57lb with Bill Underwood 37lb and John Joyce 27lb.

Bream boiled in Castle Ashby's midweek Brickyard do



the way with 37-12 with Mick Hewlett 26-2 and Richard Dunkley 18-12.

• White Hart Flore's Spring pools do saw Dale Gibson with 45lb as Terry Adams netted 40lb and Robin Fruish 35-4.

 Russ Lay topped Glebe's 'Ashby's Brickyard do with 32-10. Kelvin MacIlhinney had 26-4 and Mark Collier 22-8.

• Two carp for 13-10 put Mick Goodridge top of Towcester's Bairstows do. Mick Bodilly had 3-12 and Les Goodridge 2-9.

Bits ruled in match. Jeff Rice

Castle's Crescent lake silverfish match. Jeff Rice totalled 6-9, Bob Spencer 4-4 and Paul Lafflin 4-1.

• And lastly...Flore & Brockhall found their Brockhall bridge cut living up to its unprintable nickname as Gareth Abrahams won with five fish for 1-4-6, Paul Humphries had 1-1-13 – and Ken Cadd was third with four for just 0-5-6. Others caught even less!

● FIXTURES: July 7, MK teams-of-4 Furzton summer league starts, 07703 556788 ■

TROUT: Town's Mick Griffin had a ball on Ravensthorpe – boating rainbows of 13lb, 8lb and 12 others in a trip as the water produced 395 trout, 5.9 per rod. Elinor's best of week went 11-12 as 923 trout were caught, 4.1 per rod.

Rutland's rod average was 4.23 with 1,764 trout landed. Town's Seamus Halliday had Pitsford's best of week rainbow, an 8-4, as 470 trout were caught, averaging 4.1 per rod.

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