

As adventuring pair head Down Under it is...

Shark in the dark for Wizards of Oz

FANCY tangling with hungry sharks to almost 300lb...hauling them onto the beach at your feet...in the dark?

That's what Newport Pagnell-based Des Butcher and Tim Walden did on the western coast of Australia.

For three weeks they were in a different world on the other side of the planet – doing what guys of an age often do...ignoring cracks about mid-life crisis and going on a "proper boys' adventure."

Des said: "We caught 25 different species on fly, lures and baits – including four species of shark to 270lb, queen fish to 30lb, and barracuda to 40lb.

"Apart from one (very expensive) charter trip it was all shore-based. Consequently we hooked a number of fish which headed for India – and we couldn't stop them!"

Just think, 200 years ago crims were shipped there as punishment. Judges back then obviously hadn't heard about the fishing.

● EVEN though it was a hot sunny day on a shallow, streamy, stretch an Environment Agency electro-fishing

t e a m turned up some nice fish on the N e n e ' s T u r v e y O u s e – including p o u n d roach and an eel a l m o s t three-feet long!

● Tuition for ' o l d e r ' beginners at Bishops Bowl was a hit for Basil C a r d e w , aged 69 who, among other things, bagged a 3lb tench.

● STANWICK's fish of the week was Paul Keys' 36lb Elsons' common.

● WHITE Hart Flore have a 245lb first-leg lead in their 'home-and-away' with Daventry – winning 625-12 to 380-12 on Barbys Banks as their Mick Wheeler had 138lb and Steve Bull 71-8. Gary Hulley had 50-8 for Daventry.

● ROYAL Oak, Clattercote: Carl Barnfield 126lb, Karl

Mullen 97-8, Jason Shirley 87-12.

● COUNTY vets, Canons top: Alf Gillard 88-12, Pat Neale 78-8, Nick Antonacci 61-8.

● CASTLE Ashby Brickyard, Saturday: Frank Pizamenti 88-4, Courtney Hewlett 68-4, Chris Prigmore and Lloyd Haynes both 34-12.

● NENE, Waterloo: Dave Gibbins 84-4, Gerald Greene 57-8, Dick Shellhard 46-2.

● FINEDON, Browns Farm: Bill Brown 61-11, Barry Lawrence 28-6, Simon Higgs 28-1.



■ Some snake: this Turvey Ouse eel was an inch short of three-feet long Pic Neil Stafford

● TOWCESTER, Canons top: Andy Jones 53lb, John Broughton 39-4, Tosh Saunders 38-12.

● LITTLE Harrowden, Stretton Lake: Jim Broadbent 50-4, Tony Granfield 39-9, Ian Taylor 38lb.

● CASTLE, Crescent Lake: John Lewis 6-14, Geoff Rice 5-12, Fred Prior 4-12.

● FLORE & Brockhall, silverfish, Silver Lake: Ken Cadd and Steve Smith both 6-9, Rob Rawlins 3lb.

● OLNEY, Ouse: Barry Glidewell 5-14, Pete Hawley 5-7, G r a h a m Prince 4-12.

● FIXTURES: Sunday, Newport river open, 07795 068428 – also 'Bucko' charity open, Tofts, 01327 351780; Tuesday and Aug 16, Olney river opens, 01234 240061.

Furzton Fest, MK, August opens: 20th, Ken Ball vets 01908 565446; 22nd, disabled 01908 608944; 24th, float only and, 25th, Frank Swan memorial 01908 313158 ■



■ TIM Walden in Oz: warm nights, sandy beaches...and 200lb shark in the dark!

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