

Catching seven-foot-four-inch 220lb Canadian sturgeon...

Helps Pete live the dream!

DREAM achieved! Another tick on the bucket list! I'd wanted to do it ever since watching John Wilson on TV all those years ago.

That is Pete Dixon's verdict on catching a 220lb sturgeon from the mighty Fraser River – a seven-foot-four long streamlined monster which took off towing the boat – and Pete – behind it.

Hooked on 30lb class rod, a size 10/00 hook and a 2-POUND lead...the prehistoric look-alike was estimated to be some 40 years old – well older than Gilders' man Pete, who said: "It went like a train, I really felt I was going to be pulled over the side.

He and a pal had two of the giants apiece, and then did a tour of the Canadian Rockies. "It wasn't a cheap day out...but it WAS a fantastic experience."

● **OVER a quarter-ton of zander, a predatory alien species, was removed from the local canal this week in a Stoke Bruerne to Cosgrove electro-fishing operation watched in part by Nene's Chris Howard, Ron Collins and Paul Minney. More than 300-odd were caught, generally between 1lb and 4lb, with an eight-pounder netted from one marina.**

● TOVEVALLEY, Lakeside: Ed Blaine 154-13, Andy Jones 91-6, Jacob Harris 89-12.

● NENE, Tofts: Paul Ramsden 152lb, Brian Beard 145lb, Chris Howard 108lb.

● MATRIX champs round, Meadowlands: Neil Carlos 146-

8, Steve Daly 123-4, Andy Inglesent 119lb.

● MILL Lane, Lakeside: Ken Andrews 102-12, Mark Wadhams 56-07, Alan Aird 54-14.

● CASTLE, Canons: Bob Spencer 101-10, Ron Coles 82.8, Dave Keech 68-6.

● COUNTY Vets, Canons: Jeff Rice 97-14, Spencer 62lb, Alan West 51-4.

● CASTLE Ashby opens: Weddy, Brickyard, Courtney Hewlett 89-8, Frank Pizamenti 82lb, Mick Hewlett 39-8; Sat, Brickyard, C Hewlett 61-4, Pizamenti 47-8, Chris Cantrell 45-8; Sun, Grendon, Bob Reed 96-14,

Charlie Edwards 59-12, Grant Howie 49-12.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Barby Banks: Gary Muddiman 87lb, Mick Wheeler 85lb, Dave Griffiths 75lb.

● GLEBE, Waterloo: Dave Haddon 82-14, Dave Jones 53lb, Jack Shaul 13-11.

● ABINGTON, Waterloo: Vince Battams 70-4, Dave Huth 31-12, Malc Bunyard 24-4.

● FINEDON, Peatling Parva: Roger Brain 69-12 (barbel & ide), Dave Roberts 62-9, Steve Amos 48-7.

● TOWCESTER Vets midweek, Waterloo: Grenville Read 68-3, Les Goodridge 63-5, Dave Prodger 55-4.

● OUNDLE, Nene, rugby club: despite a lot of canoe traffic, Graham Clipston 10 bream 37-13; Mark Cunningham 7-14, Graham Prince 7-1.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Banks: Gerald Cash 19-4 (scooped £50 on golden peg), Alan Loughran 18-8, Paul Humphries 17-10.

● STANWICK's fish of the week was Ollie Cruden's 26lb mirror from Elsons. Jamie Flowers, Pete Day and Bradley Wegner all had 20s.

● **FIXTURES-closures: Blisworth canal area best avoided until Aug 15. Local canal fest (13th & 14th) – lots of boats, mooring, and an anticipated 40,000 visitors** ■



■ LIKE a monster prehistoric barbel! Pete Dixon (right) and pal with 220lb river sturgeon



■ RON Collins, Chris Howard and Paul Minney watch the specialised 'Z' boat in action at Stoke Bruerne

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