

**With temps of 100+ and raging forest fires, fishing...**

# World champs can be tough!

**S**O it's been a scorcher on local banks this week? Think yourself lucky you are not fishing the world feeder champs with town's Ringer brothers.

*They're on a rock-hard water in Portugal - with temperatures in the 40s ...and killer forest fires raging in the backdrop!*

As temperatures soared above 100 degrees (in old money) Steve and Phil's bagman - dad Geoff - said: "It's scorchingly hot and everything is tinder dry. I can well understand how it (the outbreak of blazes killing at least 60 people) happened.

"We're about 30 to 40 miles away but we could (see the smoke, and glow in the sky) on Saturday night."

Maintaining concentration apart, a major problem has been keeping bait alive on the bank during this week's practice. The Championship proper is this weekend, so wish English good luck - and better results than our cricketers...

● **FRIDAY's river season start was pretty dour for most, locally, thanks to low water, clear and weedy conditions. But Graham Clipston came good on a wider, deeper part of the Nene at Islip with 11 bream to 8-8 for 52-6.**

● **AND Steve Drakulic found Ouse dace at Sherington Bridge - winning Newport's open with 17-15 on the whip. Paul Caton had 8-15 with James Drakulic and Alex Graham both on 6-2. Downstream Olney's length was slow, but did produce a 5lb tench, a 14lb common and a chub said to go 6-6.**

● **TOWCESTER's re-vamped Astwell Mill opened with a bang, Friday, for regular 'Tiggy' Blackwell - 11 good bream and two tench.**

● **AT Stanwick John Clarke led the way with a 29lb mirror with Jason Hodges getting a 27-13 and Darren Armstrong**

**seven 20s to 27lb. Two tackle shop guys shared 120 carp off the top in 48 hours at Drayton.**

● **S&S, Wold Farm: Lee Cox 158lb, Dave Rawlings 146lb, Nick Wooding 136lb.**

● **ROYAL Oak, Barston: Wayne Sharman 134-14, Grant Merritt 111lb, Wayne Colloff 96-5.**

● **MILL Lane, Decoy: Mark Wadhams 86-2, James McClorey 66-11, Ashley Core 66-3.**

● **WHITE Hart Flore, Bishops Bowl: Trevor Griffiths 78-8, Andy Sibley 60lb, John Berry 48lb.**

● **CASTLE Ashby, Brickyard, Midweek: Bob Reed 67-8, Courtney Hewlett 48-12, Frank Pizamenti 39-14.**

● **COUNTY Vets, Canons: Alan West 67-8, Paul Lafflin 21lb, Colin Bradbury 20-4.**

● **OUNDLE, local Nene: Brian Garrett 43-2 (10 bream), Roger Scott 40-2, Bob Gill 13-3**

● **FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Banks: Bob Prowse 30lb, Fred Johnson 26-12, Rob Rawlins 26lb.**

● **NENE/Towcester, Billing Aquadrome: John Broughton 5-10,**

**Kevin Nightingale 5-6, Les Ramsden 5-4 ■**



■ **ONE man DID find opening day river-fish: Graham Clipston with 11 slabs to 8-8 for 52-6 from the Islip Nene.**  
Picture, Chris Morehen