City angling club JVAC have stepped in to help local seven-year-old Jessica Howard as she prepares for a life-changing operation. The Helpston youngster, who was born with a form of cerebral palsy, is preparing for a procedure which will aid movement in her legs and help her walk. Now JVAC have donated £200 from club funds towards the costs of the operation.

"It's a lovely gesture and we are so grateful," said Jessica's mum Hayley.
"People have been unbelievably kind and generous since we started raising funds towards the operation and the physiotherapy that will be required afterwards."

In addition to helping Jess locally, the angling club have donated money to Prostate Cancer UK and Get Hooked on Fishing, a charity which helps provide positive opportunities for young people through angling. For more information on Jessica Howard, visit www.teamjess.org

Pic caption: JVAC member Lee Kendall presents Hayley and Jessica with a cheque for £200 which will go towards her life-changing operation.

It's all change at Tydd Gote Angling Club after a very interesting AGM after one of the clubs long standing officials has decided to stand down after 17 very successful years serving the club. David Parlett was given Honorary Life Membership and was warmly thanked for all the work put in over the years. So it's all change at the top with much younger anglers holding the key positions. The club has done well and it is hoped they can move on and continue to establish the club as a leading force in helping to return anglers to natural venues and strengthening the clubs holding on local waters. The Club now has a new Secretary in John Bates and he can be contacted on 07709282965, while the new treasurer will be Andy Greenwood his phone number is 01945 582621. Committee members stood down and five new ones were elected on to the Committee.

Due to the popularity of Wednesday open matches during the winter it has been decided to run Wednesday matches from the start of the season, the first match will be on18th June, 2014 draw at Main Road at 9am, fish 10-3, £11 pools, which includes £1 Golden Peg and £1 match fee.

The Easter school holidays did not provide the ideal weather for local youngsters to get out onto local lakes but several hardy souls made the effort including Jed Clay, the 10 year old has become a regular on the Tallington Lakes over the past couple of years and after a cracking piking session which saw him bank several fish to 8lb I am sure he will be back for more fun soon.

Some times we tend to forget just how good the Decoy Lakes complex is as a match fishing venue. Thankfully though judging by the sell out Maver Match This qualifier anglers around the country are more than willing to spend a great deal of money to fish this fantastic event at our premier venue. The match saw some of the country's top commercial anglers lining the banks including many of the venue regulars who have proved in the past they are more than capable of holding their own in big events. Yorkshire rod Lee Kerry topped the field, proving once again he is a force to be reckoned with in all aspects of our sport. Lee is well known in this part of the world as he was already a rising star fishing local team events and winter leagues before he moved up north. He is now on the verge of breaking into the England team and is a regular in the Drennan Barnsley side. The Preston Innovation backed rod drew well on peg 26 on the Beastie Lake, a peg that is noted for huge barbel weights which had shown during the week but come the match it was carp that muscled in. Margin work has proved to be a winner in the past but Lee opted for a long pole approach fishing to the left and right of the island concentrating on pellet fishing at full depth and up in the water weighing in 134lb 6oz which was just enough to secure his place in the Grand Maver Match This final. Spare a thought for Guru backed Lee Palmer he came in second from the Oak Pool fishing pellet and corn just missing out with a level 131lb. Best of our local rods was Simon Dow with 116lb 14oz who came third followed by two more locals John Whincup and Simon Godfrey, joint fourth on 108lb 4oz.

Ramsey & District Angling Society fished on Six Islands at Decoy Lakes on Sunday and saw Pete Holland grab his first win of the spring series, putting a level 80lb to the scales, Pete caught on pellet from peg 15. The consistent Rob Wright drew peg 22 at the car park end and fished meat taking the runner up spot with 79lb 4oz, then came Stan Dow coming in third on 72lb from peg 11.

This week's Ramsey club match is on Beastie Lake at Decoy.

The Willow Pool on the Decoy complex proved to be a very tough nut to crack in the latest Hotpoint AC match at the weekend, with over half the field failing to put 20lb to the scales as the bitterly cold wind put paid to bait presentation on many of the pegs. Out in front from one of the sheltered pegs at the back of the island was Richard Knight. He drew peg 33 and fished a small feeder with maggot and corn for 43lb 4oz. Frank Herring on peg 26 did well to finish second putting 38lb 3oz fishing meat close in, followed by Peter Howson, he was on 24 and also fished meat to record 25lb 15oz.

There was much better news from the Webb's AC camp fishing the Kingsland Small carp lake, Martin Harwood putting a fine 117lb to the scales to take the top spot. The Old Fletton rod caught the majority of his fish on the long pole fishing pellet up in the water. Runner up was Dave Pearson, he concentrated on meat and pellets fished in the margins for 71lb 7oz. Then came George Bates, again fishing the margins for 65lb 10oz.

Runaway winner of Saturdays Peterborough Conservative Club Casters match at Decoy Lakes on the Elm Pool was Terry Tribe who drew well on peg 16. Fishing shallow on pellet and meat in the margin the Deeping rod weighed in 129lb 4oz. Runner up was Alan Porter, he caught up in the water on pellet and had a few fish late on in the margins with red maggot. Third place went to Bob Barrett, he caught on maggot in the margins for 44lb 9oz.

The weekend weather looks as if it kept weights down on the majority of pools at Decoy, even the Beastie Lake was a little off form, due to the weather and perhaps the pressure on the water from the previous day's big Maver event looking at the JVAC result. The honours went to Roger Gowler with 85lb 3 oz on peg 17. Roger fished the feeder to the island on hair rigged meat and pellet. It was much the same for Terry Tribe he put 75lb 6 oz to the scales from peg 10 he fished the far bank on a feeder and the long pole down the margins with red maggot. Andy Gausden same third with 71lb 6oz on peg 4.

With a brisk, cold wind blowing towards the low numbers on the Horseshoe Lake at Decoy, Fenland Rods organiser John Smith decided not to use most of the low numbers and concentrated on the higher numbers behind the trees to give the anglers a little extra shelter. Unfortunately that gave those that drew low the chance to scoop the top places thanks to the empty pegs. James Garner drew peg 2 and fished cat meat close in near the weed bed, he caught all day and put a very credible 131lb 5oz to the scales to win the match and the Club Cup.

On peg 5 Mac Campbell fished similar tactics to weigh in 110lb 12oz for second position. Third was Tim Bates on 92lb 10oz, followed by Kev Lee with 70lb 9oz. This weekend they are on the Kingsland small carp lake.