



ROUND THE WORLD

USA

While targeting shoals of grouper during a recent fishing tournament on the Florida Panhandle, Adlee Bruner (47) latched into a whopping 844lb mako shark. After an hour-long, arm-aching fight he couldn't believe what he'd landed. "I've fished for 40 years and never seen anything that big," he said.

NEW ZEALAND

Frustrated anglers who lose track of shoals and features on their fish finders when their boat speeds up could soon be rejoicing, because two university students have created a transducer that will work effectively with the fastest boats available.

SWITZERLAND

The number of amateur anglers wetting a line on the world-famous Lake Geneva has increased dramatically, with more than 1,000 new rods targeting the vast expanse of water. The number of professional anglers has remained unchanged however, with 140 fishermen working the 5,262-acre lake.

ICELAND

The English tradition of fish and chips may have a future, despite stocks of cod dwindling in British waters. Over 90 per cent of the nation's cod now comes from Icelandic waters, and new laws have been brought into force meaning Icelandic fishermen must reduce their catches by one third to allow low stock numbers to recover. At least they are not ruining their stocks of tasty cod!

MAVER IS COMING ON STRONG

Once again we've been busy at UKCarp, going to all the trade shows. First we visited Maver, a relative newcomer to the carp scene. Famous for top-flight match gear, the company has now launched an extensive carp range, including terminal tackle, under the guidance of Derek 'The Don' Ritchie. It was a pleasure to see so many well thought-out items.

Let's start with the luggage. This has been made to a high standard with quality waterproof material and durable zips, and a couple of things really stand out. A rig pouch retailing at £14.99 is a great little item that includes a small plastic box



BIVVY

■ A zip-in extension panel adds space

RIG BITS

■ Maver now does terminal tackle

BEDCHAIR

■ Strong and very comfortable

The real star is the StormRider bivvy with its zip-in extension that converts it into two berths

for all your bits and pieces.

Then there's the five-sleeve quiver at a reasonable £89.99 complete, perfect for three rods plus a spod and marker.

In the extensive clothing range, the waterproof gear is top notch, but it was the Maver Carp Fleece, with its

huge range of features, that stood out at only £29.99.

Well worth a mention too is the six-leg bedchair, well padded and strong. The most important bit – the seat – is very comfortable. The chair is expected to cost around £160.

And so to the real star of the show, the StormRider bivvy. This spacious bankside

shelter has a heavy-duty groundsheet and proper sized carry bag, but what makes it stand out from the crowd is the zip-in front extension panel that converts this one-man bivvy into a two-berth shelter, perfect for those times the missus wants to venture out on to the bank.

The range is worth seeking out in your local tackle shops.

Your shout

OVER TO YOU, UKCARP READERS. THE FLOOR'S YOURS

Terry Hearn's article on rig tying in the December issue shows why he is so consistently successful. His attention to detail in everything he does is incredible – will you come and fill in my Lotto numbers some day, so I can 'be lucky' like you, Tel?

Mike Gardener, Hyde, Cheshire

What happened to the UKCarp Bivvy Babe in December? A picture of a world-record carp is all very

well and good, but it doesn't float my bait boat half as much as your lakeside lovelies.

Sal Fabuzza, Peterborough

Paul Garner should get a life if he loses sleep wondering how to avoid knots in his PVA bag presentations.

Crimping is for hairdressers, not serious carp anglers. (I tried it though, and it actually works – how sad am I, then?)

Darren Grice, Walton-on-the-Naze

Quotes of the month

"Anglers prepared to make fine adjustments to their end tackle and bait will keep on catching through the worst of the weather"

Lee Collings

"Silt comes in many varieties, and some of it really stinks"

Andy Maker

"In my student days I 'invented' a make-believe pet dog and cat so as to be first in line for tasty scraps from the butcher and fishmonger"

Nick Fletcher