

Following a generally dour 18 months of big Ouse chub catches...

# Mark's 8-pounder lights a fire!

**LOCAL** lad Mark Blincow's capture of an 8lb chub has set the Upper Ouse specimen-hunting world on fire!

The Great Houghton rod banked the monster chevin from an MKAA stretch near Stony Stratford, and it came within two ounces of that association's record – which was set four years ago by a fish from the mighty Adams Mill.

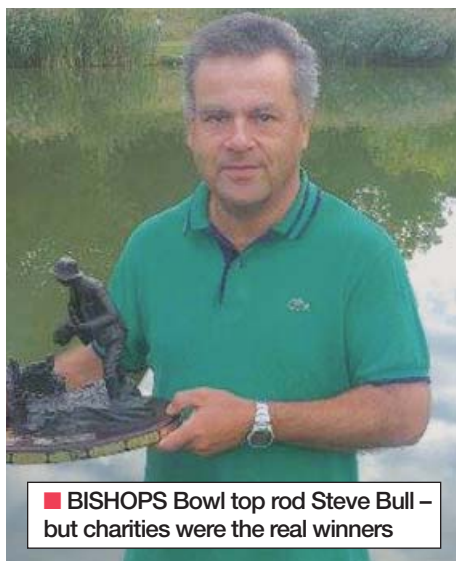
And it is currently the joint second largest known to have ever been landed from the upper river.

But...it could yet pack on enough muscle to raise the bar for Ouse fish by a significant amount, perhaps as soon as this winter.

Mark – no stranger to big chub having had two 7s from the river last season – said: "Despite its size it didn't look like an 'old' fish, and could have some growing left to do."

He caught the fish, one of seven on the day, on free-lined lobworm.

● THE air ambulance and Macmillan Nurses were the real winners when scores of anglers got together with Shaun Smart to stage a charity weekend at his Bishops Bowl complex. Between them they raised almost £4,700 – with John King alone raising an incredible £1,400 – taking the series total, for 14 years, to more than £33,000!



■ BISHOPS Bowl top rod Steve Bull – but charities were the real winners



■ FISH of a lifetime: Mark Blincow's 8lb Ouse chub

The Sunday's Pete Nimmo Memorial do fell to Steve Bull with 88-6 of small carp as Luke Melcher had 59lb and Jason Shirley 56-12.

● STANWICK's best of week was 'Dusan's' 28lb mirror, while Solomon Stewart had a 27 and Ally Breeks three 20s to 22-10.

● OLNEY's 60

peg Ouse sell-out, with a £500 top prize underwritten by the club, went to Paul Caton with a hemp and caster roach and dace 16-10. Ernie Sattler had 11-10 and Steve Bull 10-3.

● TOWN's Grant Howie was fourth with 37-4 in the Ferry Meadows Ivan Marks Memorial open.

● TOWCESTER Vets, midweek, Tofts: Gary Muddiman 254lb, Tom Griffiths 94lb, Ron Collins 93-4.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Tofts: Muddiman 127lb, John Berry 115-8, Dave Griffiths 109-8.

● MILL Lane, Alders Farm: Ken Andrews 92-8, Gary Abrahams 77-12, Tom Griffiths 57-4.

● OSPREY, Piddley: Kevin Watkins 91lb, Tony Nesbitt 78lb, Ian Millin 74-7.

● NENE/Towcester: Canons: Wayne Robinson 76-2, Bob Eales 7-8, Phil Steel 30lb.

● ROYAL Mail Northampton, Flecknoe: Mick Wheeler 58-8, Andy Forbes 51-12, Keith Bishop 49-4.

● CASTLE Ashby: Brickyard, Chris Garrett 54-2, Kevin Garrett 50lb, Mark Moody 47-8; Grendon, Courtney Hewlett 49-8, Mick Hewlett 39-4, Ian Pretty 34-12.

● FERRY Meadows midweek open: Les Ramsden 36lb, Steve Ringer 30lb, Phil Ringer 28lb.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Banks: Bert Isle 35lb, Kelvin Mackerneany 31lb, Ken Cadd 25lb.

● FIXTURES: October 4, Towcester open, canal, 01908 563617 ■