

Matchmen beat the awful weather to...

Get 2016 off to a good start

ATROCIOUS though the weather has been – SOME people still managed to get their 2016 carp match seasons off to a flying start!

Among them Lee Jones topped Osprey's Lakeside, Towcester, match with 132lb ahead of Tony Taylor 99lb and Gary Price 96lb.

● AND at Barby Banks White Hart Flore's top-six netted almost 400lb as Dave Chapman lead the way with 86-6. John Berry had 72-15 and Trevor Griffiths 65-4.

● AT Boddington the latest Ringers Pairs do saw Karl and Sean Connelley win with three points (64lb). Baz Byrd and Wayne Sharman also had three points, but went second on 41-8. Glenn Maxwell and James Hipkiss (third) had four points and 57lb.

● THE past month has been a desperately sad time in local angling circles.

Town-based RICHARD BLENKHARN – Wellingborough secretary for 20 years and County Cup committee stalwart – died suddenly, aged 64, on Thursday.



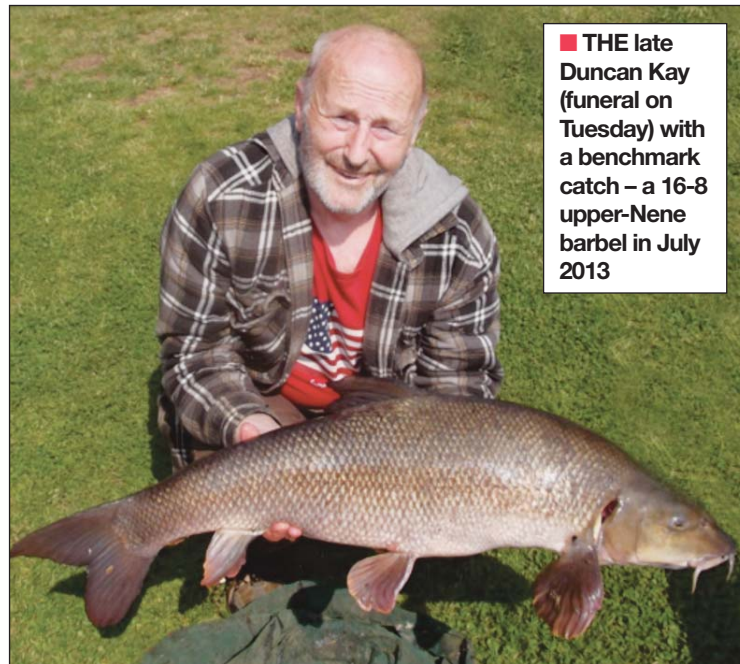
■ Newport winner Dave Tebbutt with unseasonable tench

For many years he and wife Sara's print business produced membership cards and dayticket books for numerous local clubs. The pair also promoted the sport, fisheries and businesses with a series of local angling directories. Funeral details yet to be fixed.

Renowned carper DUNCAN KAY, known nation-wide for his pioneering work on boilies and HNV baits

in the 70s and 80s, has died, aged 67, following a long illness.

One-time proprietor of Mid-Northants Carp Fishery (now Stanwick) he and wife Marie ran a successful local bait factory (Slyme and Karpi Baits among others) folding it in the recession of '89.



■ THE late Duncan Kay (funeral on Tuesday) with a benchmark catch – a 16-8 upper-Nene barbel in July 2013

An outstanding all-rounder, he had 99 double-figure barbel, and tench to 10lb, to his credit when in 2013 he took the upper-Nene to a new high by catching whiskers of 16-8 and 13-8 within a week.

Funeral 2.15pm Tuesday at Kettering Crematorium, wake at the Griffin, Higham Ferrers.

JOHN 'BUCKO' BUXTON, of Greens Norton, died suddenly, before Christmas, aged 66. Well-known for

organising charity matches, he and wife Linda had raised more than £24,000 in recent years.

During the late 80s John ran Towcester Tackle, spending a chunk of his time and money encouraging youngsters – my son among them – into the sport.

A good bloke. Not surprising that it was standing-room only at his send-off.

● CASTLE Ashby: Sat, Brickyard, Pizamenti 42-8, Lloyd Haynes 37-12, Steve Smith 24lb; Sunday, Grendon, Richard Dunkley 43lb, Chris Camplin 37lb, Charlie Edwards 25-12.

● JACK Robinson Memorial (silverfish), 'Ashby's Scotland Pond: Dave Keech 20-9, Gary West and Paul Lafflin, both 13-5.

● NENE, Weedon cut: Baz Eaton 10-3 (perch and skimmers), Dave Gibbins 6-14, Les Wallis 6-10.

● NEWPORT, rapidly rising Abbey Pits: Dave Tebbutt 8-2 including a 3lb tench, Andy Skelton 6-6, Paul Hamilton 5-1.

● **FIXTURES:** Jan 17, British Pike Champs qualifier, Sherington Road Pits, 07952 812527; Jan 24, MKAA individual winter league (Stony Ouse) 07970 047506 ■