

Following freezing run of big fish bad luck, Tommy finally...

Beats his 'foul-hooking' jinx

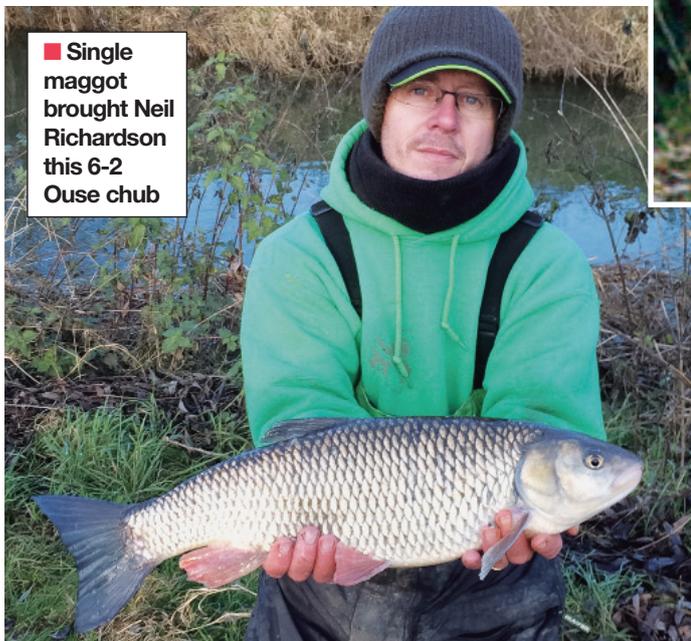
THREE big carp in a row – one a 30 – and only the smallest a 'fair-caught' fish. That was Tommy Taylor's bitterly disappointing reward for three bone-chilling sessions on Stanwick.

After landing two foul-hooked Elsons fish on the bounce, he must have been wondering if he was jinxed. But he did – finally netting a 22-4 common hooked fair and square to break his run of ill-luck.

One session saw him foul-hook the 30, the next produced a mishooked high 20 – and he was well into his third outing before getting the 22.

Fishery co-boss Phil Dunn said: "He was doing everything right but fate seemed to be against him. I'm glad it came right for him in the end."

● SUNDAY's deep freeze meant chub or nowt for most river matchmen. And Neil Richardson banked on that approach – stickfloating single bronze and trickling in three pints more to bring fish upstream on the Wolverton Ouse.



■ Single maggot brought Neil Richardson this 6-2 Ouse chub

Trotting through a deep undercut swim he hooked three fish. One, a fin-perfect 6-2, together with a 3-6 won him the Kingfisher club sweep.

Then he lost the fish of lifetime...one visibly dwarfing his 6-2 (pictured above)!

He said: "I got a good look at it as it came almost within netting distance – and I'd never seen a chub like it before in my life."

● CARPIN Capers customers are reporting decent town-centre Nene catches of roach, perch and the odd chub.

● WHITE Hart Flore: Barby Banks, Sun, Tom Buck 50-13, Tom Newbury 28-1, Dave Chapman 25-11; Dog Lane, midweek, Terry Perrin 28lb, John Tee 16lb, Tom Griffiths 9lb.



■ THIRD time lucky: Tommy Taylor with 22-4 Stanwick common

● THICK ice meant Sunday's Castle Ashby' AT winter league final round was postponed until this weekend (weather permitting).

● BISHOPS Bowl opens: Chris Hudson 36-8, Luke Malcher 24lb, Dave Smart 8-4; midweek, Derek Cullip 15lb, Kevin Folwell 4lb, Ron Allam 2-9.

● SPORTS & Social, Ringstead shallows, Nene (lots of roach): Jeff Rice 10-13 (inc a 2-6 perch), Ken Taylor 10-11, Stuart Cheetham 8-2.

● TOWCESTER Vets, Cosgrove cut: ice-breaker Dave Prodger 8lb of perch to 2lb. Graham Martin 6-7 Les Goodridge 6lb. Some nice roach showed.

● TOWCESTER, Tove: Les Goodridge 6-1 (all roach), Mick Goodridge 5lb, John Balhatchett 2-6-8.

● FLORE & Brockhall fur & feather, Dog Lane ice-breaker: Dave Ayres 2lb, Terry Smith 1-4...Jim Tanser 0-1. Rob Rawlins? Still hoping Santa will bring him a winning streak.

● FIXTURES (Ouse): Jan 1 MKAA 'hangover' open 01234 713144; Newport pits AT pike matches, Jan 15 & 29 07896 782715 ■