

Freezing winds on a river over its banks...

Braving the elements brings new PB

ONE of the few bold enough to be braving our flooded rivers on the freezing Sunday morning just gone – Jim Martin banked a 7-3 PB river bream for his pains!

With ice in the margins and the river topping its banks, he had been feeder-fishing maggot on Wellingborough's Harrold Ouse stretch – barely a week on from sharing totally unseasonal tench catches from the Nene with a mate.

But, that he will do whatever it takes to find his target species should be no surprise as, though Northampton-based, he makes numerous trips each year after blue shark off Cornwall.

● WOULD-be fish thieves are at it again in town. This time 15 to 20 metres of 'gill net' – (below) lethal to any fish trapped in its mesh – was found at Abington Park Lake.

Controlling Club Abington AC and the lake's council owners are determined to prosecute if culprits can be found. Please look out for tell-tale signs wherever you fish, and PROMPTLY report any sightings.

● DESPITE the cold everyone caught in Bishops Bowl's pairs second round with Andy Forbes (pictured above) on 35lb of skimmers and small carp followed by Nick Wheeler 34-12 (next peg) and Eric Lilliman 20lb. Forbes and Andy Poole were top duo.

● OSPREY had it good at Lakeside as Tony Winnock totalled 132-2 ahead of Peter Archer 99-2 and Steve Grant 71lb.

● MEADOWLANDS teams of three, second round of six: Phil and Geoff Ringer (Team Ringer) 75-4 and 68-4, Darren Cox (Baileys) 55lb, Adam Waklin (Cherry Pie Trio) 47lb. Ringers lead by a mile...so far.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Barby Banks: Dave Chapman 53-12, Dave Griffiths 32-15, Gary Muddiman 30-9.

● MAKINS, second round of six, pole only individual league: Ben Taylor 45lb, John Jenkins 23-12, Mark Willock 18-8. Andy Ingleson has a one point lead.

● CASTLE Ashby opens: midweek, Brickyard, Pete Gibson 29-14, Lloyd Haynes 29-4, Alan West 19-6; Sat, Brickyard, Keith Garrett 12-6, Mick Hewlett 8-7, Mick Bodilly 6-4; Sun, Grendon, Hewlett 8-2, Andy Jones 6-2, Bob Reed 6lb.

● NENE, Weedon cut: Andy Webster 6-14, Pete Lawton 6-6, Brian Beard 6-1.

● TOWCESTER's chilly Astwell Mill sweep went to Graham Martin with 5-4. Darren Pannell had 4-14 and Mick Goodridge 4-8.

● FLORE & Brockhall teams of three second round of six, Stockton reservoir: (unusually dire even for them) Dave Boulton and Tony Wood 2-10...and 0-3 (both Tony's Trio), Paul Humphries (Regulars) one perch 0-2. Regulars lead by two points.

● THINK your trip was bad? 'Nigel's' was probably worse, Monday. First he found Bradwell lake flooded out...then his car burst into flames as he re-started it – ending up a smouldering wreck! Thankfully he escaped without injury ■



■ TOWN's Andy Forbes – top of the Bishops Bowl pairs do with 35lb



■ FISH THIEVES' lethal 'gill net' recovered from Abington Park Lake