

# SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

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## FINAL REPORT FOR 1955-56

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At the end of the Club's year there were 226 members, of whom 88 qualified for membership this year.

One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy-Two sharks were recorded in the season. Amongst these, Mr. A. M. Simpson's 335½ lb. Mako shark was outstanding. The Club believes that a fairly accurate return of sharks captured has been made, and that the total given above is very near the mark. Last year, we know several hundred sharks were not recorded.

Mr. S. Taylor's Blue shark of 144 lbs. was well to the fore, and Mrs. D. Case's Blue of 134 lbs, we hope will establish a Ladies' World Record. This shark was landed on the last day of the season, which goes to show they are still there. A "Long Liner" from Looe landed three small Blue sharks in November, '56.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on October 12th, at the Salutation Inn, a representative body of members attending. There were no proposals on the Agenda, and the main part of the meeting consisted of the Chairman's, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer's reports. Details of the financial state of the Club are set out on a later page of this Report; it is in quite a healthy state.

### ANNUAL DINNER

Over 100 members and guests sat down to a very successful dinner, and no doubt thoroughly enjoyed themselves; several horizontal champions were observed in the later stages of events!

The President, Mr. F. A. Mitchell Hedges, and his daughter, Miss Le Guillon, presided and previously had received the members and their guests at the reception. Mr. Mitchell Hedges presented the prizes, and these were well distributed. A full list of prize-winners is shown on a later page.

Loyal greetings to Her Majesty were sent from the Club, and the following telegram was received from Buckingham Palace.

CHAIRMAN, SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN.  
*The Queen sincerely thanks the President and Members of the S.A.C.G.B., dining together this evening, for their kind message, which Her Majesty greatly appreciates.*  
Private Secretary

**GENERAL**

This summer was not so good as 1954-55 for weather. Blustery cold conditions were dominant right to the end. Many choice items of Hotel Menus finished their career off Looe in the role of "General Rubby Dubby!"

All the boats plying from Looe had a successful season, and the old cry of not enough boats was often heard. It is reported that next summer there will be at least four more boats on the job. Members are advised by the Committee to book well ahead, and, if possible, pay a deposit; this legally ties things up.

Messrs. J. Bray and I. Eathorne will assist with the booking of boats and equipment.

The following boats are fairly certain to be sharking next year, several others are talking about it, but until we know for sure we are not including them on our list:—

"Paula", W. Butters; "Paula", East Looe; "Claire", C. Butters, Barbican; East Looe; "Atlantis", B. Dingle, Shutta Rd., East Looe; "Maxie", R. Barnes, Hannafore, Looe; "Lady Betty", A. Dingle, West Looe; "Blossom", J. Dingle, West Looe; "Sea Bird", N. Butters, East Looe; "May Queen", C. Tamblyn, East Looe; "Mako", Mrs. Sutcliffe, East Looe; "Silver Spray", E. Williams, Barbican, Looe; "Irene", R. Pengelly, Hannafore, Looe.

**BRITISH RECORDS**

The Club has sent official claim forms to America in the hope that Mr. H. Whiddett's 180 lbs Blue and Mrs. D. Case's 134 lbs Blue will be established as World Records,

TAKWISMAN

Bobby 40 Eileen David Allen  
TWO SISTERS

ORLANDO I abanthe IVERN #  
JERRY ~~Down~~ NBUTILVS

To date, the Blue shark has not been recognized for World Records; we now hope that the International Game Fish Association will include it in its lists.

**CLUB BADGES**

There is a good stock of Club badges, etc., held by the Secretary. Any of the following items can be had by contacting the Secretary.

|   | £ | s. | d. |                    | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|----|----|--------------------|---|----|----|
| 3/-<br>49/6<br>59/8<br>8/9<br>Lapel Badges .. |   | 3  | 9  | Shark Tie Pins ..  | 2 | 10 | 0  |
| Blazer Badges ..                              | 2 | 10 | 0  | Burgee Tie Pins .. | 4 | 0  | 0  |
| Car Badges. . .                               | 3 | 0  | 0  | Ladies' Scarves .. |   | 17 | 6  |
| Club Ties .. ..                               | 1 | 1  | 0  | Boat Burgees ..    | 1 | 15 | 0  |

**Notable Fish List 1955-56**

**TROPHY WINNERS, 1955-56**

**F. A. MITCHELL HEDGES TROPHY**

Winner—A. M. Simpson. Runner-up, S. Taylor

**S.A.C.G.B. TROPHY**

Joint-Winners:

Mrs. D. Case, W. D. Bragg

**NORMAN LORRAINE TROPHY**

Winner—S. Taylor. Runner-up, Mrs. D. Case

**PAT CASE TROPHY**

Winner—Mrs. D. Case. No Runner-up

**R. C. ROBERTS TROPHY**

Winner—B. Bonsal. Runner-up—J. W. Smith

**BARBICAN TROPHY**

Winner—J. J. Holmes. Runner-up—H. S. Andrews

**AUGER TROPHY**

Winner—Mrs. P. Sutcliffe

**LOOE FISHERMEN'S PROTECTION ASSOCIATION TROPHY**

Winner—E. Williams, "Silver Spray"

Runner-up—J. Butters, "Paula"

**COCK O' FLEET TROPHY**

Winner—E. Williams, "Silver Spray"

**DAPHNE CASE TROPHY**

Winner—Mrs. D. Case. Runner-up—Brig. Caunter

**ALAN CAUNTER TROPHY**

*Winner*—Mrs. D. Case.     *Runner-up*—Mrs. H. Eathorne

**THE MARTINI TROPHY**

*Winner*—J. J. Holmes

**VENNING TROPHY**

*Winner*—Mrs. D. Case

**SERCOMBE OLIVER TROPHY**

*Winner*—A. M. Simpson.     *No Runner-up*

**BOATMAN'S TANKARD**

*Winner*—J. Butters, "Paula"

**PLAQUES**

**June**—Mrs. D. Case

**July**—A. M. Simpson

**August**—Mrs. H. Eathorne

**September**—Mrs. D. Case

**October**—Mrs. D. Case

The following letter was received by the Club from one of its most valued members; health reasons have now compelled him to retire from active sharking. However, he still visits Looe two or three times a year and takes a great interest in everything that goes on.

The committee decided that instead of reading this letter at the Annual General Meeting, it should be included in the Final Report.

**S.A.C.G.B.**

My dear Pat — Will you be kind enough to seek the indulgence of the President, and the Chairman of the Committee, to allow this letter to be read at the dinner on Friday next.

My only excuse for seeking this privilege is that I suppose I have been, since the very beginning of the Club, the most elderly regular—month a year—Shark Angler and the first who has been compelled by anno domini to strike his flag, an event which on September 10th was performed with due ceremony and, I must confess, on my part with considerable emotion and tears. I was proud of that flag, tattered and torn as it was by the wind and the rain.

My real purpose in writing this letter is to thank very sincerely for their unflinching kindness and help all the members of the Club I have met, and the skippers of the craft, notwithstanding the fact that, particularly from the skippers, such kindness and help has been accompanied by rude and profane remarks about myself, my looks, and my angling prowess, every word of which I have thoroughly enjoyed!

Your Club, Mr. President, is the best run Club of any of which I have been a member and I have loved every second that, as a member, I have spent on the sea. *Every second*—fine days or rough seas. And on some days it *was* rough, especially for a small crabber like the "Heather Glen", with no shelter at all, in which I went to sea, until the last two years. I remember one very rough day when we went out to sea quite a long way and rode out the half gale, and caught a shark over 100 lbs, during which time one mammoth shark ship (no names) ran for shelter to Polperro harbour. Great days in the wind, and the sun, and the rain; great sport and great fun.

Although I have caught my last shark I hope to come to Looe for years hence, and to watch the boats go out and count the flags on their return and perhaps occasionally go to sea myself and see the real art of shark angling!!

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I be allowed to wish you a first class evening with perhaps just one more drink than usual. And for the future—tight lines, happy days, first class sport, lurid language from Edgar Williams and other skippers when sharks nip their backsides, and the wonderful thrill of coming back to the quay with a really good fish—and pretending to be bored by the reception and the weighing! In other words, as grand a time as I have had.

I shall be with you in spirit on Friday evening and I shall raise my glass "To the health and success of the Shark Angling Club of Great Britain, and of every Member." Yours very sincerely,

STANLEY TEE

P.S.—I still maintain, whatever Bill Butters and others may say to the contrary, that the Mako shark I hooked, and lost, one day when fishing from the "Heather Glen" weighed over 600 lbs. It leapt 11 or 12 times about 10 feet into the air, and it was as long as the boat. I first told this tale when sitting in the corner seat of the Salutation, and I am sticking to it—the tale, I mean, not the seat.

#### NEW TROPHY

Members will probably recall that a previous report recorded that Mr. F. A. Mitchell Hedges has presented a valuable Silver Trophy with a cheque for £25 to the boatman concerned, for the capture of the first Blue Shark of 250 lbs. At the 1956 Annual Dinner, Mr. Mitchell Hedges improved his offer of the Trophy to the members, and a cheque for £50 to the boatman concerned.

## BRITISH RECORD HOLDERS

It had been agreed by members that a special award be made to members of the Club who have held or now hold British Records. The committee dealt with this matter by designing a special trophy in the form of a plinth with a silver burgee flying from a mast, suitably engraved. Three members are entitled to this award, namely, Mrs. Hetty Eathorne, Mr. J. F. Barlow and Mr. H. Whiddett; these members have already received these awards.

## NEW BOATMAN'S TROPHY

Mrs. Pat Sutcliffe, of Macclesfield, a member of the Club, has offered each year an engraved glass tankard together with £10, to the boatman who qualifies the most new members each season.

## Notable Fish List, 1954-55

### BLUE SHARKS

| Name                  | Weight | Place | Name              | Weight | Place   |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------------------|--------|---------|
| S. J. Taylor ✓        | 144    | Looe  | S. Chambers       | 100    | Looe    |
| W. J. Roxton ✓        | 138    | Looe  | G. A. Tedds       | 100    | Looe    |
| Mrs. D. Case ✓        | 134    | Looe  | A. H. Orcutt      | 100    | Looe    |
| J. W. Smith ✓         | 128    | Looe  | A. H. Orcutt      | 100    | Looe    |
| C. Yarde ✓            | 128    | Looe  | J. R. Fobister    | 100    | Looe    |
| W. D. Bragg ✓         | 124    | Looe  | D. R. Plumbridge  | 99     | Looe    |
| Miss Tessa Huggett ✓  | 121    | Looe  | W. D. Bragg       | 98     | Looe    |
| W. D. Bragg           | 120    | Looe  | T. Eathorne ✓     | 98     | Looe    |
| D. A. Green ✓         | 120    | Looe  | J. M. Garrard     | 98     | Looe    |
| A. E. Turner ✓        | 118    | Looe  | Mrs. Case         | 98     | Looe    |
| E. Chappel ✓          | 117    | Looe  | S. H. Hammond     | 98     | Looe    |
| W. D. Stevens ✓       | 116    | Looe  | J. W. N. Clark    | 98     | Looe    |
| L. J. Duxbury ✓       | 115    | Looe  | F. N. Manley      | 98     | Looe    |
| W. D. Bragg ✓         | 114    | Looe  | F. N. Manley      | 98     | Looe    |
| H. Cartmell ✓         | 113    | Looe  | Brig. Caunter     | 98     | Looe    |
| Mrs. H. Eathorne ✓    | 111    | Looe  | J. Eathorne ✓     | 98     | Looe    |
| E. R. Vines           | 111    | Looe  | Mrs. H. Eathorne  | 98     | Looe    |
| E. Wilson             | 110    | Looe  | H. H. Robinson    | 97     | Looe    |
| F. G. Woodward        | 110    | Looe  | I. V. Griffiths   | 96     | Looe    |
| Mrs. D. Case          | 109    | Looe  | E. R. Vines       | 96     | Looe    |
| Brig. J. A.L. Caunter | 108    | Looe  | Mrs. D. Case      | 95     | Looe    |
| S. Willer             | 108    | Looe  | T. P. Black       | 95     | Looe    |
| Mrs. D. Case          | 107    | Looe  | R. E. McNamara    | 95     | Looe    |
| J. J. Holmes          | 106    | Looe  | Mrs. D. Case      | 95     | Looe    |
| A. Long               | 105    | Looe  | T. Eathorne       | 94     | Looe    |
| T. Eathorne ✓         | 104    | Looe  | J. W. Thirkell    | 94     | Looe    |
| M. H. Wonnall         | 104    | Looe  | W. D. Bragg       | 94     | Looe    |
| M. H. Wonnall         | 104    | Looe  | F. L. Caunter     | 94     | Looe    |
| Mrs. D. Case          | 103    | Looe  | F. L. Caunter     | 94     | Looe    |
| A. M. Simpson         | 103    | Looe  | Mrs. D. Case      | 94     | Looe    |
| W. D. Bragg           | 102    | Looe  | A. Cyht           | 94     | Looe    |
| Mrs. S. G. Hubbard    | 102    | Looe  | F. C. Cobble Dick | 94     | Looe    |
| Miss V. E. de Byrom   | 102    | Looe  | H. Cartmell       | 93     | Looe    |
| L. C. Gilbert         | 101    | Looe  | C. H. Sewell      | 93     | Looe    |
| J. Deeley             | 101    | Looe  | N. Nankervis      | 92½    |         |
| H. R. Fry             | 100    | Looe  |                   |        | Newquay |



## SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1956

| 1955 | RECEIPTS                             | £   | s. | d. | £     | s. | d. |
|------|--------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-------|----|----|
| 45   | Dinner Tickets—Members               | 100 | 11 | 0  |       |    |    |
|      | Donation President                   | 25  | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
|      |                                      |     |    |    | 125   | 11 | 0  |
| 336  | Subscriptions                        |     |    |    | 453   | 12 | 0  |
|      | Affiliation Fee—Shark Club of Torbay |     |    |    | 1     | 1  | 0  |
| 332  | Burgees, Badges etc.                 |     |    |    | 360   | 12 | 0  |
|      |                                      |     |    |    |       |    |    |
| £713 | Total Receipts                       |     |    |    | 940   | 16 | 3  |
| 230  | Balance brought forward—At Bank      | 389 | 12 | 0  |       |    |    |
|      | In Hand                              | 23  | 6  | 0  |       |    |    |
|      |                                      |     |    |    | 412   | 18 | 0  |
| £943 |                                      |     |    |    | £1353 | 14 | 3  |

  

| 1955 | PAYMENTS                                 | £   | s. | d. | £     | s. | d. |
|------|--|-----|----|----|-------|----|----|
| 44   | Printing, Stationery, Advertising        |     |    |    | 73    | 17 | 9  |
|      | Books—Fishes of Western N. Atlantic      |     |    |    | 8     | 0  | 0  |
| 280  | Trophies and Prizes presented to Members |     |    |    | 106   | 3  | 0  |
|      | Show Cases, Flagpoles, Frames            |     |    |    | 39    | 14 | 6  |
| 171  | Burgees, Badges, etc.                    |     |    |    | 423   | 8  | 6  |
|      | Burgees presented to Boat Owners         |     |    |    | 24    | 9  | 0  |
| 5    | Engraving Trophies                       |     |    |    | 16    | 10 | 10 |
| 3    | Insurance of Trophies                    |     |    |    | 3     | 0  | 0  |
| 26   | Secretarial Expenses—Postages            | 24  | 15 | 9  |       |    |    |
|      | Entertaining                             | 2   | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
|      |  |     |    |    | 26    | 15 | 9  |
|      | Dinner Expenses—Dinner                   | 125 | 17 | 0  |       |    |    |
|      | Band                                     | 5   | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
|      | Gratuities                               | 9   | 0  | 0  |       |    |    |
|      |  |     |    |    | 139   | 17 | 0  |
|      | Cheque Book and Bank Charges             |     |    |    | 7     | 1  | 1  |
| 1    | Wreath—Remembrance Sunday                |     |    |    | 1     | 12 | 6  |
| £530 | Total Payments                           |     |    |    | £863  | 15 | 11 |
| 413  | Balance carried forward—At Bank          |     |    |    | 489   | 18 | 4  |
| £943 |  |     |    |    | £1353 | 14 | 3  |

The Club Trophies are valued in the sum of £530.  
 The Stock of Burgees, Badges etc. on hand as valued by the Secretary/Treasurer amounts to £305.

I have examined the books and vouchers of the Shark Angling Club of Great Britain and checked them against the receipted accounts and Bank sheets. From the check I have carried out and the information supplied to me as required by the Secretary/Treasurer I am satisfied that the above-written Statement of Accounts shows the true financial position of the Club.

W. LLOYD WHITE,  
*Hon. Auditor*

(Signed) DONALD P. CASE,  
*Hon. Secretary/Treasurer*

22/9/56