

SHARK ANGLING CLUB

OF

GREAT BRITAIN

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Final Report for ~~1954~~

1955

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# SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

54-55.  
FINAL REPORT FOR 1953-54

At the end of the Club's year (16th October) there were 118 Members and many have accomplished amazing results during the Summer months.

Six hundred odd Blue Sharks were captured; 215 of these were over 40 lb. in weight; three Porbeagles and one Thresher. The complete list of Members' captures, at least those that were registered with the Hon. Secretary, is given at the end of this Report.

**Club Rule Book.**—The present Rule Book, it is felt, is inadequate, and the Committee are taking steps to produce a small leather folder in which a set of Rules may be inserted and reprinted from time to time as and when Rules are added or amended.

Many New Members have not yet been issued with a set of Rules, and the reason for that is because there was every possibility of further alterations being made at the Annual General Meeting. This, of course, did happen, and new books will be forthcoming in the near future for issue to all Members.

**Lapel Badges.**—Every Member should now be in possession of a Lapel Badge, but if any Member has been missed they should inform the Hon. Secretary.

**Blazer Badges and Ties.**—These are now available at 50/- and 25/- each, respectively.

**Club Burgees.**—Available at 35/- each.

**Annual General Meeting.**—This was held on October 16th and a good representative body of members attended.

**Annual Dinner.**—Sixty-three members and guests attended the Annual Dinner and were received by the President, Mr. F. A. Mitchell Hedges, and Miss le Guillon, at the Club's Headquarters in Looe.

A gay evening followed an excellent meal, and the Speeches, Presentation of Trophies and Prizes and the Entertainment provided were thoroughly enjoyed.

Loyal greetings to Her Majesty were sent from the Club and the following telegram was received from Buckingham Palace —“The Queen sincerely thanks the President, Chairman and Members of the Shark Angling Club of Great Britain, dining together this evening, for their loyal greetings and good wishes which Her Majesty much appreciates.”

**General.**—In spite of the shockingly bad weather during the Summer months, members were not deterred from going to sea. The majority of the sharks were landed at Looe, and it was not always easy to obtain sufficient boats to accommodate the parties. There were, however, nine or ten operating, more or less specifically for Shark Angling and it is good news that there will be at least another four available next Season.

It is still a surprising fact that no commercial use has been found for the fish caught. No doubt members are not interested in the fish once they have had their sport and weighed their fish in, but what are the boatmen doing to supplement their hire charges? Perhaps someone will have a bright idea one day!

The amount of publicity given to the activities of members has again been nation-wide, stories having been printed in national newspapers, angling papers, *Lilliput*, *Illustrated*, and broadcast by the B.B.C., and for the opening of the North Hessary Tor T.V. Station a film of Devon and Cornwall has been made and a feature of the film is a “Shark Angling Trip.”

The propositions made to increase the qualifying weight and to make an entrance fee of 5 Gns. for the first year, to include the 2 Gns. subscription, caused considerable interest amongst members. A good number voted by proxy and this gave a good line to those who were able to attend the Annual General Meeting. The increase in subscription being heavily defeated, but the proposition to increase the qualifying weight to 75 lbs. was carried after considerable discussion. Members were by no means unanimous on this point.

#### **Classification of Gear**

Some members may have read an article in an Angling Paper recently which referred to the “heavy” tackle being used within the Club, and may be wondering whether it would be possible to institute “classes” of tackle to be used by members. It, therefore, appears desirable that Members should be informed as to what has transpired in this connection and something of the problems involved.

The article under reference maintains that the tackle used for British sharks is too heavy and implies that it would be desirable to encourage the use of lighter tackle by the introduction

of certain limitations in the conditions under which some of the Challenge Trophies are awarded.

Since the line is the weakest "link in the chain," it naturally follows that it is the line which must be considered when exploring the possibility of reducing the strength of tackle to be employed.

This has been considered by the Committee several times during the past year, and was also discussed at the Annual General Meeting in October. During that discussion it was pointed out that, whereas in the past, when only linen lines were used, it was possible to lay down classes of tackle because a linen "thread" had a breaking strain of 2lb. dry and 3lb. wet. This is not feasible now owing to the fact that many different makes of nylon and terylene (British and American) lines are in use, and because the strength of such lines is in many instances considerably greater than that claimed by their makers. It would obviously not be fair to limit the strength of lines when certain makes might be very much stronger than the "strength" figure laid down, although according to the makers they might be of the specified strength.

Until a solution of this problem is forthcoming no further move appears to be justified.

At the General Meeting members who attended were asked to send to the Committee any suggestions they might have to make and it is hoped that all members of the Club will think about this difficult problem, and should they have any helpful ideas send them to the Honorary Secretary for the Committee.

The suggestion that one make of line should be specified is not practicable since it would be establishing a "monopoly" and lead to considerable extra expense for members.

#### **Trophy for June**

A "TATLER V" Reel, manufactured by Messrs. Grice & Young, has been presented by that firm to the Club for Competition during June, 1955. It will be awarded for the Best Blue Shark landed during that month.

#### **British Record Blue Shark**

Mr. J. V. Barlow, on leave in this country from the Sudan, landed a Blue Shark of 155 lb., easily breaking the existing record of 122 lb. He landed the fish at Looe and it was his first shark in this country. As he was not a member at the time of capture he did not, of course, qualify for the Club's major trophies but won the "R. C. Roberts" Trophy for the best qualifying fish. He also wins the Anglers' News "Fish of the Year" Trophy, presented by Mr. Mitchell-Hedges. In the Qualifying Competition Major G. Roberts' Blue Shark of 120½ lb. was second.

### Reporting Captures

It is again stressed that in order to keep Club Records and Statistics members should notify the Hon. Secretary of ALL fish caught, regardless of weight. Of course, those of over 75 lb. must be carefully entered on the Declaration Forms and duly witnessed, but in the event of a member having fish of under 40 lb. the addition, for example, of "and four smaller" may be added beneath the details of the "Notable Fish."

### SUBSCRIPTIONS 1955

For the convenience of those members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1955 a form is enclosed and may be forwarded with their cheques, etc., to the Hon. Treasurer.

### NOTABLE FISH LIST, 1953-4

#### Porbeagle Sharks

Caught by	Weight in lbs.	Place
Lionel Rice ...	287 lb. ...	Looe
Colin Miles ...	230 lb. ...	Looe
J. J. Holmes ...	199 lb. ...	Brighton

#### Thresher Sharks

E. E. Harding ...	103 lb.	Christchurch (Hants).
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#### Blue Sharks

Caught by	Weight in lbs.	Place	Caught by	Weight in lbs.	Place
J. F. Barlow	155	Looe	J. H. Holmes	104	Looe
(New British Record).			A. F. Ford	103	"
Major G. Roberts	120½	Looe	Mrs. D. Case	102	"
T. P. Robinson	120	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	101	"
C. Yarde	116½	"	Mrs. D. Case	100	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	115½	"	J. H. Holmes	100	"
H. L. Healy	115	"	H. S. Tee	98	"
D. Murray	115	"	C. Yarde	98	"
A. F. Ford	113	"	Capt. D. P. Case	98	"
F. Lyde Caunter	111	"	A. Orcutt	97	"
C. W. Lucas	110	"	J. N. Cresswell	96	"
A. H. Jackman	110	"	R. Fisher	95	"
J. Higgs	109	"	G. Hick	95	"
F. Lyde Caunter	109	"	F. Lyde Caunter	95	"
J. J. Holmes	107½	"	Mrs. P. Hodder	94	"
A. V. Moore	107	"	Mrs. D. Case	92½	"
Mrs. D. Case	106	"	H. S. Tee	92	"
Capt. D. P. Case	104	"	C. J. T. Boys	92	"

Weight			Weight		
Caught by	in lbs.	Place	Caught by	in lbs.	Place
G. E. Shaw	91½	Looe	H. S. Tee	74	Looe
G. Middleton	91	"	H. S. Tee	74	"
Capt. D. P. Case	91	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	74	"
A. H. Jackman	90	"	H. S. Rother	74	"
R. E. Newcombe	90	"	M. B. B. Salkinder	73	"
P. Black	90	"	F. Lyde Caunter	73	"
Mrs. D. Case	90	"	R. E. Newcombe	73	"
R. Staddon	89½	"	H. S. Tee	72	"
H. S. Tee	89	"	F. C. Cobbledick	72	"
Capt. D. P. Case	89	"	R. E. Newcombe	72	"
K. B. Waugh	89	"	J. Gurney Grice	72	"
Mrs. D. Case	88	"	G. W. Hazlewood	72	"
C. Yarde	86	"	G. B. Cumming	71	"
Capt. D. P. Case	86	"	E. L. Wilson	70	"
F. Lyde Caunter	86	"	C. Yarde	70	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	86	"	E. L. Were	70	"
J. B. A. Rice	85	"	H. S. Andrews	70	"
W. D. Bragg	85	"	H. S. Tee	70	"
C. F. Huggett	84	"	R. C. Roberts	70	"
H. H. Cresswell	84	"	A. J. Penton	69	"
Mrs. H. Eathorne	84	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	68	"
H. S. Tee	83	"	Capt. D. P. Case	68	"
F. Lyde Caunter	83	"	P. G. Heather	68	"
C. F. Rowan	82	"	A. D. Hepworth	68	"
W. H. Dutfield	82	Falmouth	M. Clueipeit	67	"
Lee Monks	81	Looe	G. W. Berrey	67	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	80	"	C. Yarde	66	"
C. Miles	80	"	H. S. Tee	66	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	80	"	W. E. Penton	66	"
F. Lyde Caunter	80	"	R. C. Roberts	65	"
Mrs. H. Eathorne	80	"	T. H. B. Boyson	65	"
C. E. Goldsmith	80	"	Mrs. D. Case	65	"
C. S. Lloyd	80	"	H. J. Whiddett	65	"
W. D. Chambers	80	"	E. L. Wilson	64	"
F. Lyde Caunter	80	"	J. C. Vine	64	"
Mrs. D. Case	79	"	J. J. Holmes	64	"
F. Price	78	"	C. S. Palmer	64	"
T. P. Robinson	77	"	C. Yarde	64	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	76½	"	Capt. G. Grant	64	"
H. G. C. Claypoole	76	"	F. F. Patrick	64	"
F. Ferguson	76	"	C. E. Goldsmith	64	"
R. G. Sandy	76	"	W. T. Hoadley	64	"
E. T. Barnes	75	"	J. J. Sutherland	62	"
S. Tillman	75	"	J. Gurney Grice	62	"
S. I. Vandersluis	75	"	J. Higgs	61	"
Mrs. D. Case	75	"	F. Lyde Caunter	61	"

Caught by	Weight in lbs.	Place	Caught by	Weight in lbs.	Place
W. Davison	61	Looe	Mrs. D. Case	50	Looe
F. Lyde Caunter	61	"	F. Lyde Caunter	50	"
R. D. Mackay	61	"	F. Lyde Caunter	49	"
G. B. Cumming	61	"	Capt. D. P. Case	48	"
W. MacAllen	60½	"	H. S. Tee	48	"
A. Dingle	60	"	H. S. Tee	48	"
H. Cartmell	60	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	48	"
F. Lyde Caunter	60	"	Mrs. D. Case	48	"
J. J. Holmes	60	"	Mrs. D. Case	48	"
F. Lyde Caunter	60	"	Mrs. D. Case	46	"
Mrs. D. Case	60	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	46	"
F. Lyde Caunter	60	"	Mrs. D. Case	46	"
S. J. Taylor	60	"	Mrs. D. Case	46	"
Mrs. D. Case	58	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	45½	"
F. Lyde Caunter	58	"	E. L. Wilson	45	"
Capt. D. P. Case	58	"	F. Lyde Caunter	45	"
Capt. D. P. Case	57	"	Mrs. P. Cutner	45	"
R. E. Newcombe	57	"	J. J. Holmes	45	"
Mrs. D. Case	57	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	45	"
F. Lyde Caunter	56	"	F. Lyde Caunter	45	"
F. Lyde Caunter	55	"	H. S. Tee	44	"
H. S. Tee	55	"	F. Lyde Caunter	44	"
Mrs. H. Eathorne	54	"	Mrs. D. Case	44	"
H. S. Tee	54	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	44	"
H. S. Tee	54	"	Mrs. H. Eathorne	43	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	54	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	43	"
F. Lyde Caunter	53	"	A. S. Williams	43	"
Capt. D. P. Case	53	"	Mrs. D. Case	43	"
F. F. Patrick	53	"	F. Lyde Caunter	42	"
Mrs. D. Case	53	"	H. S. Tee	42	"
Mrs. Hepworth	52	"	H. S. Tee	42	"
Mrs. D. Case	52	"	J. Higgs	42	"
F. Lyde Caunter	52	"	Capt. D. P. Case	42	"
H. S. Tee	52	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	42	"
Dr. N. S. Lorraine	52	"	F. Lyde Caunter	42	"
F. Lyde Caunter	51	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	42	"
Mrs. D. Case	51	"	Brig. J. A. L. Caunter	42	"
H. S. Tee	50	"	Mrs. P. M. Oliver	42	Crafthole
C. Miles	50	"	Mrs. Tidswell	42	Looe
Mrs. D. Case	50	"	Mrs. H. Eathorne	42	"
Mrs. D. Case	50	"	Mrs. D. Case	41	"
Mrs. D. F. Coleman	50	"	Dr. N. S. Lorraine	40	"
P. G. Heather	50	"	R. C. Roberts	40	"
R. C. Roberts	50	"	C. Miles	40	"
			A. S. Williams	40	"

