



January 2021 NEWSLETTER

The Shark Angling Club of Great Britain

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021 Shark Festival

7th, 8th and 9th July 2021 – draw takes place on the evening of the 6th July – Looe Social Club, Top Bar

2021 AGM

Thursday 8th July 2021 – Looe Social Club, Bottom Bar

2021 Annual Dinner and Trophy Presentation

Saturday 23rd October 2021, Portbyhan Hotel, West Looe

CHAIRPERSONS WELCOME

As we all know, 2020 was a difficult year for all of us. We did however manage to complete trips once the season got going. It was unfortunate that we could not hold the Festival but hopefully this year the Festival will go ahead.

Despite the late start to the season, the number of sharks increased from the previous year. In 2019, 1096 Blue Sharks were caught of these 75 were qualifiers, 25 Porbeagles and 1 Thresher was also caught. In 2020, 1312 Blue Sharks were caught of these 86 were qualifiers, 18 Porbeagles were also caught. Notable fish was a Porbeagle Shark with an estimated weight of 300lbs. by Ian Beaufoy.

As many of you are aware, there has been a "by catch" of Blue Fin Tuna by some boats. Whilst it has not been confirmed, there is a strong possibility that a restricted fishery could be available for catch, tag and release. This would not only be an option during the normal season but would extend fishing trips until late in the year.

From a Club point of view it has been a difficult year with many cancellations early in the year and the

cancellation of the Festival. It has however been a good year, overall. Membership has increased from 320 to 361.

The Lucky Run Club now has 16 members with someone winning £75 each month, so if you have not yet joined it may be a good time to get involved.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee for what has been a difficult year to meet and carry out the business of the Club. In particular, I would like to thank Claire Kelly for all the work and effort she puts in, Pete Davis for his work keeping records of shark catches and Simon Thomas for all his researching work.

Hopefully by the beginning of the season will be free of the Coronavirus, the weather will be fine and more trips can be completed.

Tight Lines!

Bob Woodman - Chairman

Annual Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are now due and the committee have agreed to leave the annual subscription at £20.00 for 2021.

As previously, you will retain the membership number which you received last year. This number will remain with you throughout your membership with the club and it will never be reassigned to another member. This enables your record to be unique and improves the quality of our record keeping.

Chasing subscriptions takes up a considerable amount of administration time so we greatly appreciate you helping us by paying your subscriptions on time.

For those of you that have yet to pay, your membership subscriptions were due on 1st January, so they are now overdue.

To renew your subs online, visit the shop on our website at www.sharkanglingclubofgreatbritain.org.uk or if

you wish to pay by bank transfer, you can do so using the account details below.

Lloyds Bank

Account Name: Shark Angling Club of Great Britain

Sort Code: 30-95-08

Account Number: 00692083

Please remember to enter your FULL name as a reference, so that we can correctly identify and allocate your payment.

Alternatively, you can send cash or a cheque made payable to 'Shark Angling Club of Great Britain' to:

SACGB,
c/o Looe Social Club,
Mayoralty House,
Quay Road,
West Looe
PL13 2BU

You can also pay by **PayPal** to:
sacgbsecretary@gmail.com

Thank you.

CLOTHING & MERCHANDISE

Catch and Release Hoodies are probably our best seller. We keep stock of as many items as possible, but if we don't have it in stock we will do our best to get it to you as soon as possible.

We are still able to obtain most items in 5XL/6XL sizes although these need to be ordered specially so they take a little longer.

New for this year is the White Hoody for Full Members, which is very popular.



Prices:

Hoodies	£25
Sweatshirts	£20
Polo Shirts	£15

Catch & Release T Shirts	£15
standard T Shirts	£10
Baseball caps	£1
Embroidered year patches	£5
Metal Pin badges	£3
(set of badges – one cloth/one metal)	£7
Red Burgees	£25
Blue Pennants	£17.50
120" Measuring Tape	£21

All these items are plus postage.

These and other goods can be ordered online at; www.sharkanglingclubofgreatbritain.org.uk.

Alternatively, you can place your order by email to sacgbsecretary@gmail.com, and transfer the money by BACS, paypal or you can write to us and include cash or a cheque to SACGB, c/o Looe Social Club, Mayoralty House, Quay Road, West Looe PL13 2BU

2020 Annual Dinner & Trophy Evening

Unfortunately, the 67th Trophy Presentation for the club had to be cancelled due to Coronavirus.

Another disappointment in a year of most unusual circumstances!

The date for the Annual Dinner, 2021, is 23rd October and the venue will be the Portbyhan Hotel.

We did issue a Special Newsletter at the time, but here is a reminder of the trophy winners for last season:

2020 Trophy Winners

Anglers Trophies

Mitchell-Hedges Trophy	Ian Beaufoy
Mickey Wonnall Trophy	David Wright
Norman Lorraine	David Wright
Sammy Porbeagle	Ian Beaufoy
Sercombe Oliver Thresher	Joe Filipe
Alan Caunter	Angela Spearing
Venning	Martin Dye
Ron Gibson Trophy	Brian Copeland
Leslie Andrews	Steve Chivers
R C Roberts	Jean Woodman
Marsden Sutcliffe	Harvey O'Malley
Daphne Case Trophy	Dave Keen
W K Wileman	Jason Heenan
Carl Aldridge Trophy	Danny O'Malley
Hampshire Trophy	John Lock
Cornish Trophy	Simon Ward
Welsh Trophy	Andrew Baker
Brooks Elliot Trophy	Jason Heenan

Glaisbasel Trophy	Steve Chivers
R J Day Trophy	Richard Day
Iris Memorial Trophy	David Wright
Sharky Martin shield	Brian Copeland
Visually Estimated Trophies	
The Mustad Trophy	Spencer Wright
K J Tapper Trophy	Joe Fillipe

Skippers Trophies

Cock of the Fleet	Murray Collings
Fisherman's Protection	Dan Margetts
Fred & Betty Reid	Dan Margetts
Kingerlee Trophy	Phil Curtis
Dusty Miller	Murray Collings
Chairman's Trophy	Pete Davis
Mustad Trophy	Phil Curtis

Fish of the Month

June	Spencer Wright
July	Joe Filipe
August	Jason Heenan
September	Ian Beaufoyo

British Measured & Released Line Class

20lb Line Class	Dave Keen
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For the current season - don't forget, you have to submit a Claim form to be considered for a Trophy and provide photographic or video evidence. The forms can be downloaded from our website.

2021 SHARK FESTIVAL

The dates have been set for the 2021 Shark Festival. They are the 7th, 8th and 9th of July with the draw evening taking place on the 6th July.

At time of going to print the festival has 47 anglers and 13 boats booked, which leaves 4 remaining spaces, these have now been opened to Associate members. If you are interested, please contact the secretary as soon as possible.

Please note that final payment for the festival is due on, or before, end February 2021.

The Festival format will be the same as usual with winners being decided on points score except for the most sharks prize.

First prize: the angler with the largest shark (points score)

Second prize: the angler with the second largest shark (points score)

Third prize: the angler with the third largest shark (points score)

Most sharks: the angler who catches the most sharks over the 3 days

Most cumulative points: the angler with the most cumulative points over the three days

Optional daily pool: The angler who catches the largest shark (in points score) each day, and who has contributed to the pool, will take the money

Skipper of the boat with the largest shark (points score)

Skipper of the boat catching the most sharks over the 3 days

The entry fee for the 2021 Festival remains at £450 per person. There are limited places remaining so get in touch asap if you are interested.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVE

As most of you will have read in previous newsletters, I have recently come on board to help digitize the archives drawing on my experiences of working with Angling Heritage.

I have now gathered most of the information in the SACGB archives and was a little bit amazed that many of the photographs have no identification, and in general it needs a vast amount of work to knock it into shape to get a structure to the archive.

One of the first areas scanned was old **Newsletters** and we now seem to have all these filed except for some which are missing. There is no report for 1963 and we only have a partial report for 1961. If anybody has a copy, if you would please lend it, copy or scan it and send it through to Claire, she will ensure that I get it. Your assistance in filling this void would be greatly appreciated.

Now **Photographs**, sadly the majority of photographs do not have any identification of person, fish or boats. We have been working on getting as much information as we are able, and will be adding some to the Facebook page –

indeed you may have seen some of our earlier requests – to try to gather additional content. This means that if you would like to have your catch recorded professionally in the archive, please could you resubmit your picture but with the following information :-

- 1) Your name
- 2) The fish and its size
- 3) Location where it was caught
- 4) Boat fished from
- 5) Skipper
- 6) Date
- 7) Anything worthy of special note

In future, we will need this on all future submissions and Claire will be amending the applications to request this information, preferably on the reverse of the picture.

Two other areas where we are trying to pull together is data on Skippers who shark fish and again your assistance is required for good photographs to put the face against the name whether a Looe skipper or elsewhere. If you have any pictures, again please would you forward a copy to Claire.

Th other list that has grown is shark Boats (attached). Very much like the skippers, we are trying to attach a picture to each boat and we would welcome copies of pictures you may have. Many boats had different skippers at different times so please tell us of anything you can add to these documents

One of the benefits of doing this work is that it was possible to help Ian Harbage (our VP) who is collating all the information about UK mako shark captures. A great deal has come from the archive but if you know of anyone who has any knowledge, pictures or true stories, Ian would like to hear from you.

The last area we are looking at is shark angling clubs. Although the SACGB was, and is the dominant sharking club in the UK, and possibly the world, there were many smaller local clubs. Most of you will be aware of the W K Wileman Trophy or the Midland Trophy as its often referred to. This trophy was donated by W K Wileman who was a member of the Midland Social Section who regularly met in a pub in Burbage to talk shark and arrange their sharking trips. There were many more of these small clubs, a number of which were affiliated to the SACGB. Once again if any of you have any material on

previous, or indeed current, sharking clubs please get back to us.

I hope this short article has given you an insight into our work. The quality and the level of completeness of some of the material means it's often a slow job but nonetheless an enjoyable and rewarding one. We can only get so much from the club records though and we are aware there is so much more out there hidden in peoples lofts and in boxes of old pictures and documents. The club and the sport have an exceptionally rich history and it would be a real shame if so much of this material was lost.

The work we are doing will not only protect this material but also make it accessible to a much larger audience so it can be enjoyed by many who can continue to learn from the history of this great club and our sport so any help you can give us with allowing us access to your own records would be very much appreciated

Keith Armishaw

Early Season Success by Spencer Wright

I cast off from my mooring early one June morning. I was alone on my boat, 'Esk Lady', a 31ft Mitchell, which had become my shark fortress for the previous year and I was keen to replicate and hopefully even surpass last year's success.

The morning high tide was still an hour away, but I was hoping to make inroads into my journey before the tide turned and would help push me along to my intended destination.



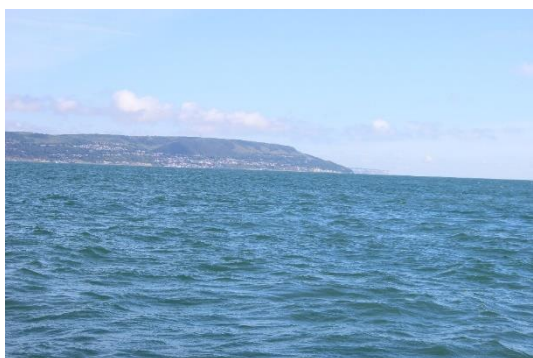
It was beautiful early morning conditions, and once I was past 'Ledge Buoy' with the sun out and a light Force 2 wind evident and forecast to drop off as the day went on, I was hoping it was going to be a good day ahead.

In my mind, I wanted to do something a little different, and rather than the traditional long tidal drifts in both directions, which had been so successful for many, I wanted to concentrate on a specific area, and do little hour long drifts and drive back over it and drift it again.

I had the area in mind which I thought may throw up some early season success, but with nothing having been caught so far, as far as I was aware, and with it being a month earlier than most people would be trying, it was still with hope, more than with expectation, of a possible bite.

My good friend Martin was also trying his luck, as we both headed in different directions with different ideas on what to try.

I arrived at the area in question, and quickly got some feathers over the side and was fortunate enough to get a string of Mackerel, first drop – what a result!



Island Sharking Grounds

Two rods were set up and set at different depths. Fresh Mackerel were the hook baits in question.

This year I had changed my terminal set-up considerably to what I had used before. Mostly to assist me with fishing alone, which had definitely hampered me the previous year, so now I had wire, wind-on leaders, plus I was using a braided mainline

with a top-shot. All of which were sourced through Stewart Newell who had been so successful, locally in the past who had started up his new Business, British Big Game Fishing.



He'd also recommended his ever-faithful hooks, so was keen to give them a try, after again having issues and losing a few, the previous year.

I started off the drift at a lovely pace and was really happy with my drift line. It was exactly where I wanted to be going and cover some features that I thought may have been of interest.

Whilst covering the ground, I was keen to keep the Mackerel rod in the water and was picking up the odd fish, every so often coming to the feathers, so was keen to get as many as I could, for bait but also for the steady stream of Rubby-Dubby that I would be using. I had two 10 litre buckets on the go, with my 3kg frozen blocks, slowly melting away.

I was really pleased with the slick and the amount of oil that I had managed to infuse into the minced fish, along with some other items, so things couldn't have been going any better.

Within a couple of hours, I had passed the features so fired up the engine and skirted out around my drift line in a big bow and then started off again on the same drift. The wind direction had changed slightly and sent me off on a slightly different line, but in the general area.

After a little while, I noticed the float starting to bob, so picked up the rod and frustratingly reeled in a small tope. Half an hour later, a repeat occurrence had me reeling in another Tope, smaller than the first, and I cursed that I had lost two precious Mackerel hook baits to the scavengers!

Again all too soon, I had made the finish point and went back for a third try, but with the tide ebbing at full speed I wasn't expecting much joy – even the Mackerel had stopped feeding and my persistence,

jigging the feathers was very much in vain, with nothing to be gained, whatever depth I tried.

I had to remember that it was still very early in the season and not to expect miracles. It was by any case a lovely day and the sun was shining, and even more importantly, I wasn't at work!

It was later in the afternoon and the tide had dropped right off and still nothing had happened, so lined myself up for the first of the flood, hoping that this may make a difference.

I had spoken to Martin Throughout the day and he had drawn a blank and wasn't going to give it much longer or at least until after tea-time, in order to get the drive back with the help of the tide.

Again, the flood drift drew little in the way of action. I was constantly looking. Shaking the chum, or had the Mackerel rod in my hand, eager to look for a sign, all to no avail.

Tea-time arrived and despondent, Martin had given up. He had not caught, nor seen anything so was calling it a day. I had an hour left, so said I was going to motor uptide for 30 minutes and have one more 30 minute drift over the area in question, so was a lot of effort, but was keen to keep to my plan for the day, so powered up 'Esk' and pushed the throttle down, into the tide for the final time of the day.



The wind had dropped off to nothing, it was a sheet of glass. The sun was high in the sky and it was stunningly beautiful summer conditions.

I dropped the 2 rods back and sailed the floats out and set about having a clean-up for the last 20 or so minutes. I emptied a pint of milk I had left over the side, then heard a ratchet, scream from my reel, in more in shock, than expectation as the rod bent over and a Thresher fully breached, a stone's throw off the stern of the boat, as I screamed fish-on!

The Thresher powered off under a decent drag setting. It was all new, using braid which was much

more responsive, having not as much stretch. I managed to clip my belt on, but didn't clip in, just using the Butt-pad facility to add some extra pressure on the fish.

The boat looked like a bomb-site. I had buckets of chum on the gunwales, a spare shark rod that I managed to reel in with my other hand, plus the feathers swinging about in a rod holder, all whilst hanging on for dear life, as the denizen of the deep, done its best to put me through my paces.



3 times, I walked up to the bow and back down the starboard side of the boat as it circled me, on a relative long line, but as time went on I managed to bring it closer to the boat.

It kept shooting off on sporadic, spirited runs and on a couple of occasions, I screamed, as I thought I had dropped it, only to finally catch up with it, with their sudden turn of speed.

After 20 minutes, I finally got it near the boat. The water quality was exceptional and I looked down in awe as I could see the ghostly shadow of a Thresher twisting and turning under the pressure that I was applying on it.



I was then able to get it up in the upper layers and reeled the wind-on leader onto the reel and grabbed the reel with my welder's glove. I went to put the rod into the holder, but before I could slot the butt into the hole, it was off and stripped 20 yards of line from the clutch.

The next time up, she was ready and came up vertically under the gunwale and laid there, beaten, and I gloved the leader, whilst placing the rod in the holder.

I was as always, taken aback by its beauty of these magnificent creatures, in complete awe.

With my marker numbers fixed to the side of the boat, just above the waterline, it was easy to get the length, of 5 1/2 ft. which using the NOAA chart equated to approx. 160lbs.



I fired up the engine and towed her along for a couple of minutes, before backing off the revs and it was just a case of taking a few shots on my phone, for posterity, then using the bolt cutters to snip the BBGF circle hook in half and watch in joy as she rolled backwards, and then with a flick of her tail, she was gone.



The grin from my face was very evident as I pointed the bow for Bembridge and headed home. My masterplan had worked and it was the start of a summer, which I would never forget, in which everything came good, with multiple captures coming my way.

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Newsletter, Spencer. A fascinating read!

NOTABLE SHARKS

In 2020 notable sharks were recorded from the start of the season, as follows;

Blue Shark

David Wright	147lb
Andrew Baker	131lb
John Lock	130lb

Porbeagle Shark

Ian Beaufoy	300lb visual est
Anthony Clark	255lb visual est
Martin Dye	400lb visual est
Danny Vokins	200lb visual est

Thresher Shark

Joe Filipe	200lb visual est
Spencer Wright	160lb visual est
Danny Vokins	160lb visual est

Other Stuff

SACGB Lucky Run Club Lottery

Winners 2020:

Jan '20 Ken Horsfield - £60

Feb '20 Pete Davis - £65

Mar '20 Ian Harbage - £65

Apr '20 Danny O'Malley - £65

May '20 Bob Woodman - £65

Jun '20 Ken Horsfield - £65

Jul '20 Bob Woodman - £70

Aug '20 Ken Horsfield - £75

Sept '20 Dave Stone - £75

Oct '20 Richard Young - £75

Nov'20 Murray Collings - £75

Dec'20 Richard Young - £75

If you would like to join and have a chance of winning a lump sum each month, download the form on the website and forward it to the secretary.

It's as easy as that!!

All funds received are split in half. The monthly winner receiving one half as a cash sum, the other half goes to the club to help fund equipment, resources and opportunities for members and hopefully, in the future, our own tagging scheme.

Facebook/Social Media

Thank you for your cooperation in not publishing 'trophy' photographs on either of the SACGB Facebook pages.

These pages are being monitored by Admin staff to try and ensure that any photos posted are suitable for publication and your help is greatly appreciated.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

One of the requirements of GDPR is to ensure that all contact data held is always current, so we would ask if your details do change, i.e. you move to a new house, change your mobile etc, or if you decide to change your contact preferences, and for example no longer wish to be contacted by phone, that you make the secretary aware. We also need to know if you decide to leave the club, so we can delete your record.

Password Reminder

The member area password for the website is:

psmith369

It celebrates Pat Smiths British Record 369lb Porbeagle caught aboard Alan Dingles Lady Betty.

And Finally:

A Happy New Year to everyone.

Let's hope for better weather this year with a busy season for skippers and anglers alike.

Tight Lines!

SACGB Contact Details

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