



January 2023 NEWSLETTER The Shark Angling Club of Great Britain

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2023 Shark Festival – price tbc

5th, 6th & 7th July 2023 – draw takes place on the evening of the 4th July – Looe Social Club, Top Bar

2023 AGM

Tuesday 4th July 2023 after draw – Looe Social Club, Top Bar

2023 Annual Dinner and Trophy Presentation

28th October, Hannafore Point Hotel, Hannafore

CHAIRPERSONS WELCOME

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2023!

A Happy New Year to you all!

2022's Festival was a great success, and the club is in a very healthy position both financially and in membership - we now have over 400 members and our Lucky Run Club has 15 members with someone winning £75 each month!

I would like to thank the Committee for attending meetings and in particular Claire Kelly for all the work she does.

I hope to catch up with many of you at the Festival!

Tight lines for 2023.

Bob Woodman - Chairman

Annual Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are now due and the committee have agreed to leave the annual subscription at £20.00 for 2023.

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.

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

Unfortunately, we are no longer accepting cheques or cash due to the bank in Looe closing.

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 your order 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.

Prices:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Hoodies | £45 |
| Sweatshirts | £40 |
| Polo Shirts | £20 |
| Catch & Release T Shirts | £15 |
| Baseball caps | £10 |
| Embroidered year patches | £5 |
| Metal Pin badges | £3 |
| (set of badges – one cloth/one metal) | £7 |
| Red Burgees | £25 |
| Blue Pennants | £17.50 |
| Ties | £10 |
| 120" Measuring Tape | £21 |
| Mug | £6.50 |
| Stickers | £2.75 |

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 or paypal to sacgbsecretary@gmail.com

2022 Annual Dinner & Trophy Evening

The 68th Trophy Presentation for the club was held at the Hannafore Point Hotel, Hannafore on 29th October 2022.



Chris Avery

Winner of the Mitchell Hedges Trophy 2022

2022 Trophy Winners

Mitchell Hedges Trophy – Chris Avery
Mickey Wonnall Trophy – Spencer Wright
Norman Lorraine Trophy – Richard Day
Sammy Porbeagle Trophy – Spencer Wright
Sercombe Oliver Thresher Trophy – Chris Avery
Alan Caunter Trophy – Zoe Page
Phil Heathman – Toby Dixon
Auger Trophy – Toby Dixon
Venning Trophy – Chris Avery
Barbican Trophy – Chris Avery
Leslie Andrews Trophy – Steve Chivers
R C Roberts Trophy – Mark Jones
W K Wileman Trophy – Ian Harbage
Carl Aldridge Trophy – Ian Harbage
Derek Denne Trophy – Chris Avery
K A Bones – Nick Chapman
Hampshire Trophy – Spencer Wright
Pearl Trophy – Bill Whistance
Glaisbasel Trophy – Steve Chivers
R J Day Trophy – R J Day
C C Bett Trophy – Ian King
Iris Memorial Trophy – Ian Harbage
Sharky Martin Sheild – Ian King
K J Tapper Trophy – Ian King
Mustad Trophy – Chris Avery
SACGB Mustad Trophy – Spencer Wright

Chairman's Trophy – Dave Bond
Fred & Betty Reid Trophy – Dan Margetts
Dusty Miller Trophy – Pete Davis
Cock of the Fleet – Pete Davis & Murray Collings
G Kingerely Trophy – Patrick Davis

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, within 4 weeks of the catch.

Final Claims MUST be received by midnight on 30th September 2023. (except for claims for the Iris Memorial Trophy which is 8th October cut off) Claim forms can be downloaded/filled in on our website.

The Chairman read the following speech at the Presentation Evening:

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the 2022 Presentation Evening. I would like to welcome our guest for the evening, Mr. Simon Thomas, our resident marine biologist whose knowledge and input is a great asset to our club. 2022 has not been the greatest year for sharks caught, 531 blue sharks were caught with 83 being qualifiers and two thresher shark was caught. This is a long way down from last year. In 2021 1321 blue sharks were caught with 144 of these being qualifiers. Two porbeagles and two threshers were also caught.

Possibly more would have caught had it not been for the algae bloom in July and August. The fishing, however, improved towards the end of the season in September and October.

Notable fish this season was a new British Record Blue Shark of estimated weight 90lbs. caught by Steve Chivers on 16lb. line.

Despite being held earlier than in previous years the festival was a great success with 79 blues caught, 11 of these being qualifiers. Once again, we had to secure boats from other ports. So, if you are thinking about taking part next year don't delay. The club is in a very healthy position both financially and membership.

This year once again we have seen the arrival of Blue Fin Tuna in our waters. Two of our local boats, Swallow and Sowenna have been licensed to catch, tag and release these magnificent fish and have enjoyed great success.

It just remains for me to thank the committee, and in particular Claire Kelly with her husband Alan in the background for all the time and effort they have given in the last year and I am sure you will join me in thanking the Hannafore Point for the superb dinner we have enjoyed tonight.

The following speech was read by President of the club - Ian King:

Good evening everyone, and welcome to the Hannafore Point Hotel.

As always it's good to see you all especially when so many of you have travelled a long way to be here. 2022 has seen a number of large blues caught not only from Looe but from other ports around the southwest. Thresher numbers seem to be increasing & after a slow early season start the porbeagles eventually showed up off the north coast.

The retro day seems to be growing in popularity & the committee have taken the decision to add the event to the festival week from next year which i am sure will be well supported.

Early next year a new book will be published about makos caught in British waters written by our Vice President, none other than Mr. Mako himself, Ian Harbage. I'm sure it will make an interesting read.

Our guests this year are Dr Simon Thomas & his wife Tracy. Simon is the club's honorary biologist & a trustee of the pat smith database. This is the longest time series of catch data anywhere in the world & Simon used it to challenge the shark trust proposal to ban recreational angling for porbeagles.

Simon has kindly agreed to make the trophy presentations later so please join me in welcoming Simon and Tracy.

Finally I would like to thank Claire, Bob & the committee for all their hard work which makes events like this possible.

Thank you & enjoy your evening

NOTABLE SHARKS

In 2021 notable sharks were recorded from the start of the season, as follows;

Blue Shark

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Ian Harbage | 104lb |
| G W Johnson OBE | 120lb |

Porbeagle Shark

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| Ian King | 150lb visual est |
|----------|------------------|

Hammerhead Shark

John Kerr
(Portugal)

600lb visual est

2023 SHARK FESTIVAL

The dates have been set for the 2023 Shark Festival. They are the 5th, 6th & 7th July with the draw evening taking place on the 4th June.

At time of going to print the festival is full with 47 anglers and 12 boats booked.

Please note that final payment for the festival is due as soon as possible, after the fee is announced. We will contact you as soon as this is confirmed.

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 festivals three days.

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

We also have a new **Team Trophy** to be won this year, for the team of two anglers with the most points over the whole festivals 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 festivals three days

The entry fee for the 2023 Festival is still to be confirmed. There is currently a waiting list in place for spaces to the Festival.

Other Stuff

SACGB Lucky Run Club Lottery

Winners 2022:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| January | Dave Stone winning £80 |
| February | Kevin Tapper winning £80 |
| March | Kevin Tapper winning £80 |
| April | Ken Horsfield winning £80 |
| May | D J Smith winning £70 |
| June | Ken Horsfield winning £80 |
| July | D O'Malley winning £75 |
| August | S Costick winning £75 |
| September | Pete Davis winning £75 |
| October | Ken Horsfield winning £75 |
| November | Carl Aldridge winning £75 |
| December | Ken Horsfield winning £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 or fill in the new online form in the members area.

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.

CAUNTERS TAIL – A 70th Anniversay Tribute

By Carl Aldridge

This year marks the SACGB holding its 70th anniversary and as we look towards the future of shark angling and our club, I'd like to pay respects to the very reason you are all able to read this.

The man whose ideas put forward to founding committee members, formed the SACGB. I'm of course talking about a name many of you will be familiar with **Brigadier J A L Caunter**.

'Briggy', as he was known, spent his early days serving King and county and was even captured by the enemy and managed to escape, earning his army nickname of 'Blood'.

In his latter years his interest in fishing and big game angling brought him to Looe and it was here where he made his home in retirement. Looe wasn't famous for anything but it did have great fishing and the Brigadier's sense of adventure hadn't left him yet.

After the great Tuna fishery had disappeared in the North Sea, Caunter had decided to re-discover 'Tunny' in Cornish waters, after several sightings. He never did catch that Tuna but what he did catch would create a shark fishery in Looe that would change the town's fortunes. Despite being chastised by many other skippers and anglers as he brought sharks in to be weighed, with comments like "that's a funny shaped Tuna" he forged a shark fishery in the United Kingdom that prospers to this day. He caught mostly Blues but the odd Porbeagle and a Thresher shark would be his legacy. The tail of that very Thresher shark is still in the hands of the SACGB. A Mako was always in his thoughts but sadly that species evaded him.



Caunter was a very skilled artist and many of his paintings were sold. The club is still very fortunate to have in its possession an oil painting of a Mako shark signed by him.

He was also an accomplished writer and wrote several books including '*Shark Angling in Great Britain*'.



Although I never had the good fortune to meet him, but those who did remember him fondly. Vic Aldous, a past Chairman, remembers him as a "task master" who wanted things 'done right' and would not except second best.

Last summer I decided to try and track down Caunter's final resting place. Finally, after weeks of searching on social media and speaking to people in the town of Looe I found it.



Overgrown and neglected, best describes how I found it. Not at all fitting for the founder of our club. So with a little cleaning from my wife and fellow member Dave Goring we were able to take a few pictures to honour what he had accomplished for our club.



As we looked on respectfully at the gravestone Dave said, "so you're the reason why I'm always *skint*". A fitting statement I think everyone would agree with.

So, my thanks go to our Committee and Claire for allowing me to embark on this project. Dave Goring and my wife Wendy who searched for hours in a graveyard full of nettles. Ian Harbidge for his support and posing for pictures.

Lastly a thank you to 'Briggy' himself, the SACGB salutes you sir and after 70 years you're definitely not forgotten.

Carl Aldridge

May Queen Update

from Tim Newcombe

So in February the May Queen came out for the first time since we have owned her. We had some caulking and red lead to do on her bottom and we removed the engine to address a oil leak in sump pan. when it was out we took the opportunity to treat the inside of her to some paint and to paint up the BMC 3.8. When the marine engineer came to put the engine back in and shim it true he said he has never seen a setup like it as the engine isn't centred the shaft runs across the keel at an angle yet it goes in a straight line. how? We finished the refit and had he ready a few days before a trip from Cawsand to Portsmouth to fish the Sea angler classic's first competition. Well what a journey that was umm We did make it to Portsmouth and enjoyed the sea angler classics coming 27th overall and the children 3rd and 4th. the first problem was injector pump was out of oil.



We were on the Skerries bank at midnight when she said no, the seas were large so i called Mayday. The first vessel to respond was THV Galatea who had their work boat launched and alongside in 15mins. I asked them to stand off as the Salcombe lifeboat was

on route. Ironically i overheard them say to the lifeboat i was a little precious about my old wooden boat, i was worried their huge steel workboat was going to break the MQ. The crew had no idea the boat they came to was the last tender to the Eddystone lighthouse. The AWLB was soon next to us and a crew member came aboard stuck his hand out and said hi I'm Tim to which i laughed and stuck my hand out saying hi I'm also Tim then we had a little reassuring hug and they took us under tow to the mouth of the Dart where the dart inshore boat took us up the river. i was really embarrassed but the crew reassured me I'd done the right thing. They where amazing and in the huge seas the coxson put the boat alongside without touching the MQ .



We sorted the oil in the injector pump then fuelled up at Dartmouth the next day and continued east to meet up with a friend in Brixham. From there we believed everything was fixed and after a fun evening with friends, we set off the east early on what i hoped was the final day. We made good progress with the tide and were 40miles in when the engine coughed and stalled 13miles of portland bill. we checked the fuel injector pump which was good and at this point, the starter motor just said NO and died on us.

We were in pretty large following seas on way up but we all of a sudden beam on. i put out a fish basket as a drogue but this had little effect leaving us beam on rolling to gunnel to gunnel. It was at this point i was head in the engine bay tapping the solenoid on the starter that a huge wave caught us throwing me into the anchor tucked away on the starboard behind the hauler post. All i remember was coming around to the wife and daughter screaming my name. They said my lifeless body slammed around back and forth making contact with the anchor a few times.

For a few seconds I was tuna fishing with a cold beer in hand.

It was now I realized the children were scared and the wife was probably right I'm not responsible adult. I swallowed my pride and again put out my second mayday in 2 days.



This time Solent coastguard came back to us saying the Weymouth AWLB was on route. They put me through on a call connection to a doctor in the hospital to talk about my injuries and buy this time the kids could see the blue and orange colours so many of us now means rescue. This boat was huge compared to us at 17mtrs and again never touched the boat. We also have a yacht called butterfly stand by which was amazing of them to answer the mayday as many had simply sailed on. the skipper and crew of said yacht all visited over the next two days to chat. With two crew onboard they first assessed my injury and confirm that luckily I hit my head and had not damaged the anchor. The crew again was amazing much to my embarrassment. We were taken in tow to Weymouth on Sunday, it was Trinity Sunday nothings and the AWLB put us on the pontoon on Trinity street it was at this point we thought the May Queen was taking us on her own journey. ExTrinity house boat with THV Galatea and now Trinity Sunday and Trinity street!!

The crew said theres a marine engineer in town called Dan and he was the best. Alot of locals passing spoke to us about the boat also all said Dans the best engineer and to their word Dan looked after us replacing starter motor and only taken a token gesture as payment. The two days where the hottest this year and i must have had 20 slush puppies. We made good use of the town and enjoyed a great day at the arcaded with the kids on the 2p machines. From Weymouth we left and made route east again this time making it all the way up to poole where she stopped again. The wife and children pumped the fuel primer on the tanks filter from Poole to Portsmouth and we arrived about midnight to find our reserved berth taken. The boys on a boat named Wahoo shouted over to tie up

behind them. Before the engine was off there was a cold beer in my hand and the boys on Wahoo had tied all the ropes. In the morning we decided to do fuel filters and check all pipes as it was now obvious she was sucking air. i started on the new fuel pipes we had installed the week before and upon tightening the jubilee it slid off the nipple..... the problem solved? Well for the next two days over the competition she ran faultlessly.



Over the next few days, we Enjoyed being made very welcome. i didn't move far from the boat or engine box as my ankles were so swollen and my knees killing i just couldn't. I did make it out on the outer pontoon and myself and Antony enjoyed a BBQ with team Wahoo and team Badboyz who all made myself and my family very welcome. I need to thank Ash from fish-on bait and tackle for picking me up some ATF for the gearbox too. Antony ate his weight in meat. Luke dropped over the 2 boxes of squid we had ordered and we were all ready for the next day. On the first day we awoke early to try and find some mackerel for bait not finding any anywhere but the start line where Sky caught 2. We didn't go far to find the fish stopping on a place known as Dean tail for the morning where we caught some nice smoothhounds.

By midday, the tide was racing and i decided to move rather than the children hauling up 32oz leads. i had Antony fishing a up-tider and down-tider Sky fishing a down-tider and myself my up-tider sat on the engine box. remember feet pounding in pain. We moved to a location i had marked called the hole in which we had some small Tope and Antony a lovely thornback when i cast for him onto a bank above the hole. We were 29th on the first day so spirits were high. we just wanted to finish in the top 30 in the competition. on the second day we repeated the above but tried the Nab tower for a hr over slack. On day 2 at 12pm the scoreboards were removed so no one new where they had come. The suspense was huge. Early nights or another BBQ i can't quite remember with the mix of beer and tramadol.

We made our way over to the historic dockyard a walk for most is 5 mins but took me 30mins as i have to keep stopping and resting. They had a band called the nothings or something and an amazing lady singer with a hugely powerful voice. Both the band and singer were amazing. Ross and crew started with the charter boat category and the atmosphere was electric. The vibes coming off all anglers were amazing and smiles and chatting going on everywhere. We had paled up with Stefan and Kevin who also travelled up from west with their small boat PaintBall from Dartmouth. They flew one of those green flags where they copied the Cornish flag.

Between us i think we were the underdogs. PaintBall being 2nd in place on day one i hoped they had won it. These two men came 3rd and gave Antony a set of scales they won and us a bottle of gin and a rod. The children were called up and had made 3rd and 4th and won Penn rods and reels. nice little outfits I'm sure they will use lure fishing on the Eddystone reef. or for squid on the many growing seagrass beds within Plymouth sound.



I had relaxed as for me it was about the children fishing and learning conservation. And then Keven and Stefan said you gotta go up on stage, turns out we won 27th place and we beat many local boats and sponsored boats.

On the last day we enjoyed some vouchers we won and then prepared the boat for the return trip home.

Just off the needles, the engine stopped again. This time I dived down below the wheelhouse and changed the prefilter fuel filter it was dirty this took me about 5 mins. She ran great all the way Saint Albans head where steam started coming from the engine.

After a quick inspection in again large seas I could see a seal i had replaced new the week before had failed. I had the children and wife filling the header

tank so we could slowly make our way to a tiny bay called Chapman's pool where we anchored overnight. I had there removed the coolant header tank seen the gasket had failed and turned fibrous and i used some RTV gasket to fix it, only sitting the header on top of it so overnight it would harden and the next day I could tighten down hence forming a seal. Overnight I must have slept well and my superhuman strength the next morning snapped a stud when tightening it down. Gutted!! we slowly made our way towards Weymouth I was adamant we were going to see Dan again but the shooting ranges weren't letting us cross the range. In the end my heading was Portland so we went into Portland. Turns out being an engine older than myself it was UNF threaded bar and had to be ordered in. Portland marina were great and we got to see some cool Helicopters flying in and out. Once the bar was delivered a kind engineer who loved the boat helped me fix it and we were on route again towards



Brixham.

We made it into fishcombe bay at about 11 pm and one of the moorings were free. We had Dolphins for the last mile that night which was magical. We slept here and the next day waking late at 9am made route for the final leg to Plymouth. We had the pod of dolphins again for a good length of time. we made it back to Millbrook marina about 4pm knackered and myself in huge amounts of pain. Never has my own toilet, shower and bed felt so good. Really proud of what my wife and children have done in supporting me on this. I couldn't do it on my own with my conditions.

I would like to thank all we met and Ross Honey for making it possible for us to do this. Also the children's sponsors and schools for allowing them to take part but most of all I'd like to thanks the RNLI who were heroes more than once. Quite a year for old girl and a trip that's really taken its toll on my health. This year's plans are more local and shark based, with Simon and young Antony taking a more hands on the helm approach. watch our journey on his youTube channel

www.youtube.com/@mayqueenmemories

Hammerhead Shark Catch – Portugal

My name is Jacob Alexander Morgan, I'm 18 years old and fishing is a passion of mine. I hope to pursue it as my career and take people out to discover the thrill of shark fishing here in Portugal.

As we left our port in Vila Real de Santo António in the eastern Algarve, Portugal, heading to our shark spot, I spotted some dolphins eating and causing commotion on the surface. I quickly made a decision to get some small tuna lures out as fast as I could, and as soon as I got the third rod out the reel started screaming. I made sure the fish was hooked, then handed the rod to renowned fisherman, John Kerr. After a few minutes he brought the fish in and it was a skipjack tuna weighing around 2.7kg, and as this was his first skipjack tuna he was over the moon with it.

We trolled to find more but we ended up empty handed, so I got the rods in and we zoomed off to our shark spot. We arrived at our desired spot and I put the fishy oil slick out, which attracts shark and any other fish around. With three mackerel flapper baits perfectly distanced from the boat,



"Now let's catch a beast," I said.

We were a couple hours into shark fishing and everyone was half asleep having eaten a decent lunch. Then 'BANG' the 30lb rod and reel started screaming and the adrenaline started pumping through my body, with the feeling of the unknown in the back of my mind as I dealt with the rod whilst John got his harness on. I felt the power of this unknown monster as I tried to figure out what fish it could be, then I heard "I'm ready," from John.

I handed over the rod with my heart racing at the thought of the fight ahead. For years John had wanted to catch a monster fish, but he has never had the opportunity in England. However, today he finally had what could be an amazing fish on the line and John knew that things were about to get serious.

As I passed John some water to keep him hydrated so he has the power to battle this beast, I heard 'SNAP'. The shoulder harness back strap had broken, so I did some quick DIY and I kept my eye on events as I quickly tidied the deck. That's when I knew something was wrong, and I looked at the reel and realised we were running out of line! I alerted the captain and we had to start backing down on this fish (which is something we never need to do for shark).

As John regained line I started to think that this wasn't a shark. The common sharks that I catch here in Portugal, being the Blue and Mako, don't behave like this one and it wasn't behaving like either of those. As we kept backing down on this monster I looked at the time and we were already one hour into the fight, which is the longest John had experienced. He can't apply too much pressure as the line is already pinging because we weren't expecting such a beast on 30lb gear, but John is doing incredibly well. I saw his jaw tighten and he was breathing a little heavier than usual, so I asked if he was good and he said "I'm good mate."

We are now 1 hour 20 minutes into the fight and slowly bringing the monster up from the depths. It was then I caught site of the monster! I saw a sliver flash in the water. It was too deep to make out what it was, but it was huge!

As it got closer I realised that it was a shark, then it turned and in disbelief I screamed "IT'S A HAMMERHEAD!"

As it got closer to the surface it saw the boat and attempted to dart underneath, but the



captain, Mark Shreeve, had anticipated this so as the shark turned so did the boat so that we were always parallel. The shark tried this move a few more times before it realised that it won't work. Now, as it is sitting just below the surface, I thought it was the perfect time to put our Go Pro underwater to get some beautiful pictures. Suddenly, the fish made a run just a couple metres away from the boat

and the leader was just out of reach. We all know that if we can touch the leader that, under IGFA rules, it's a catch. The shark is tormenting us by playing games and keeping the leader out of reach, but we knew that the fish was tiring itself out, so it became a waiting game as we didn't want to use too much pressure in case the line snapped.

After eight long minutes it swam alongside and I finally screamed (like a girl) "I'VE GOT THE LEADER, I'VE GOT THE LEADER!" We were all on edge and tension was high. We could see the size of this thing, but it was twisting and turning like crazy and kept trying to bite the camera, so we realized we couldn't bring it on board.

Captain Mark and I got control of the fish whilst John got to touch the fin. After a 1 hour 38-minute fight we had done it and this monster hammerhead was John's first ever shark. We measured it at 3.1 metres and estimated that its weight was 600lb, which is an incredible feat on 30lb gear. We swiftly unhooked it and watched as the fish swam away - always a beautiful sight. I got John out of the broken harness and then we all cheered, immediately followed by complete silence as we just sat there in total disbelief of what had just happened.

I eventually got the rods out and the oil slick going again, and we fished for a few more hours but didn't get anything else so we decided to call it a day and headed back in to port. After washing the boat down I got John's dinner that was keeping fresh in the baitwell (the skipjack) and we all went up to the cafe to celebrate, still trying to figure out what happened.

John's wife, Vivian took some amazing photos and videos of the day which we sat and watched in disbelief. She takes pride in being able to capture moments that people love so seeing. This was the how we managed to do the (almost) impossible. I love shark fishing here in Portugal, you never know what you will catch next.



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.

Obituary

The club is sad to lose Vic Grice. Vic passed away suddenly on Saturday 7th January 2023.

Vic always wanted to get into the Shark Club and had been trying for around 20 years. He used to come to Looe with his good friend Chris Evans who is also a member. Vic was so excited when he caught his qualifier last September with Phil Curtis on Typhoon. We are glad he fulfilled one of his dreams before he sadly passed.

Our condolences go out to his family.

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:

Outlaw006

This commemorates our lost Committee member Paul Martin.

And Finally:

A Happy New Year to everyone.

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

Tight Lines!

SACGB Contact Details

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