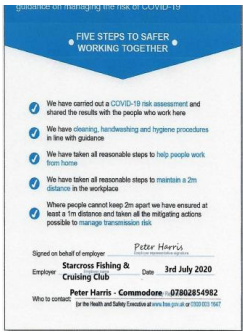


### Commodores Update October 2020



October sees the end of our 60<sup>th</sup> Year! Who would have thought we would have been dealing with Covid-19, when we celebrated this milestone in the Brunel Tower last year, it's certainly not a year we will forget in a hurry!

The latest Covid Guidelines mean that ***we must all wear a Mask or Face Covering*** while inside any of the clubs buildings. If you are visiting the bar you may remove the covering once you have sat at your table where a member of staff will serve you.

Fortunately despite all the upheaval you will see we have managed to do some of the cruises and by next weekend hopefully all the Fishing Competitions will have taken place. The bar is open as normal and Saturday night cooking is going well, John our new Chef is proving very popular. However the latest Covid changes mean that the bar will be closing early so that the room can be vacated by 22.00hrs. ***your co-operation with this is essential.***

Unfortunately the Skittles League has been cancelled this year, but we will still be holding our Annual Christmas Draw in December (more details next month).

Following on from my report last month about our email problems we have now set up some new email addresses. Please make a note of these as the old addresses will only be monitored until the end of October.

Commodore: commodore.sfcc@gmail.com  
Social Secretary socialseccsfcc@gmail.com

Future membership updates will come from a dedicated email address which will only be used for this purpose: sfccupdates@gmail.com



**Saturday Night Cooking Every Week in the Brunel Restaurant**  
**Email Kerry to Book Your Table**  
**socialseccsfcc@gmail.com**



### **Waterside Team**

**Rear Commodore** - As the year draws to an end we can only hope that next year works out better for us all. Some of the cruises have gone ahead, and we managed to get 'Brandybottle' as far as the Helford for a couple of weeks of freedom. We have been busy around the club and one thing of note is the state of the old slipway on ashes quay. It has been closed as the surface has become so badly deteriorated that it is dangerous. We will be sorting it out over the next few weeks, so it can be used for the rest of the season without the risk of falling through it. We will have to look at rebuilding the steel work early next year.

The club has also purchased a replacement tractor, a Fordson Dexta as our old workhorse was reaching the end of its useable working life. With the help John Addison we are slowly getting it up and running.

When its fully operational we should be able to make some much needed improvements to the water front

and become more self sufficient when it comes to moving some of the heavier items around the premises.

The pontoons have weathered well this summer and again as the end of the year approaches we will be looking for some willing volunteers to help put the water tanks out on the hammerhead, if you are able to assist us please give me or Keith a call. Some of you may already be aware we have also been donated a Dory by a very charitable member and when it has been repaired we will put it to good use on the waterside. I am in the process of replacing the transom and over the winter will sort out the floors and get it shipshape again. If your handy with fiber glass or a paint brush I am always looking for help.

Let's hope that next year gets us back to normal - enjoy what is left of the season and have a safe winter.

***Paddy Smith - Rear Commodore***

***Brandybottle.paddy@hotmail.co.uk***

**Bosun-** Hello to all.

Once again part of Regents House car park will be used for winter boat storage, I've looked at the tides and decided that the car park barrier will be locked from the morning of Saturday 24th Oct, high tides are mid day ish that weekend and are more favorable for those who want to get their boats off the water. There will be a notice as usual going up on the barrier prior to it being locked.

Can I ask those who are in the book for winter storage, to let me know when you have paid your £50 so I can tick you off the list – thank you. Ps if your boats in their please pay asp.

Can I remind everyone it is a condition of our Planning that all boats must be removed from the pontoon by 1st November and remind you there will be no access to the pontoon after this as the gate will be locked.

Lastly... As always at the end of the season please remove engines and dinghy's from their respective racks as this enables the waterside team to carry out maintenance work in those areas.

***Keith Marshall – Boatswain***

***bosun.sfcc@gmail.com***



### **Fishing**

***BASS & POLLOCK COMPETITION:*** The Bass & Pollock Competition got underway on the bank holiday weekend, of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> August. The comp had been moved to Sunday & Monday due to the wind, forecast for the Saturday. There was only one fish recorded on the Sunday, this was a Bass measuring 48cms, caught by John Astill. Monday saw a lot more fish recorded, the biggest was caught by me! Fishing over one of the close by wrecks using a 200gram Jig, I managed to tempt a Bass measuring 58cms which was worth 10pts towards the Accumulator Trophy. Joint second was John Astill & Steve Marks with Bass of 55cms. Both have 9pts in the accumulator. Fourth was Steve Cowell with a fish of 42cms and worth 7pts. Finally Pete Harris recorded a fish of 36cms which was returned alive. Pete gets 6pts. The Pollack Trophy was won with a fish weighing only 2lb-1oz and caught by John Astill on the Sunday and worth 10pts. Not sure if this was after filleting!! I think this was the only Pollock that was caught over the two days, which is a bit worrying.

***BREAM & CONGER COMPETITION:*** The Bream and Conger Competition went ahead on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September. The weather conditions were very good for anchoring on the rough ground

for both species. The Bream comp was won on the Saturday with the only two fish recorded over the weekend. Josie Kirkland & Kev Rouse fished over the rough ground at Straight Point. Kev weighed in a fish of 1lb-13.4oz and worth 9pts in the Accumulator but was out done by Josie who weighed a Bream of 2lb-1oz and worth 10pts. Josie also recorded a small eel, just in case!!

The Conger Trophy has been won by John Hall with an eel of 28lbs. On Sunday John was fishing on rough ground from his boat Blue mist and hooked in to several eels including the “the one that got away” estimated to be between 40&50lb. John and his crew did catch several Bream, but they were filleted by the crew before weighing, Well done Stewart!

Thank you all for taking part in all the competitions this season but there is one comp left, this is the Flatfish which was cancelled during the early days of “Lockdown”

I have now been able to re-arrange for the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> September. Please weigh on board and return alive if you are not keeping for the plate. Text me details of your catch if you are unable to record in the club by 6pm on the Sunday. Your catch could make a difference as to who wins the Accumulator Trophy this season.

### ACCUMULATOR POSITIONS AFTER 5 COMPETITIONS

1 <sup>st</sup> Kev Rouse	27pts	3 comps
2 <sup>nd</sup> Steve Cowell	27pts	3 comps
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mike Whiting	26pts	3 comps
4 <sup>th</sup> John Astill	19pts	2 comps
5 <sup>th</sup> Josie Kirkland	10pts	1 comp
6 <sup>th</sup> Steve Marks	9pts	1 comp
7 <sup>th</sup> Pete Harris	6pts	1 comp

*Mike Whiting – Fishing Secretary*  
*trepolpen1@sky.com*



### **Cruising**

The cruise planned for September 12-13 took place in Brixham. We had 5 boats on the visitors pontoon and 3 in the marina. The weather cooperated to provide a champagne sail back to the Exe on the Sunday.

If you are heading up river to Turf or Topsham it appears that the above water section of the Gas Pipe Perch Mark has come adrift leaving a very dangerous stub of steel pipe protruding. The photo taken this evening, around an hour after low tide, shows about a meter of pipe above water level. The pipe will be covered as the tide rises. The mark is approximately midway between the two gas line buoys on the north side of the channel. If you are racing or leisure sailing/boating in this area it would be wise to give this area a wide berth. I have advised the Harbour Master as yet I am not aware of any Notice to Mariners being published.



*Nigel Watsham - Cruising Secretary*  
*nigel.watsham@googlemail.com*



## **Social**

What a year – no parties, no specialty meals and for the greater part no drink! -. I have had it easy. Saturday night cooking started off with a mad Saturday - very well attended and giving our new chef John a baptism of fire. He coped well and thankfully he came back for more. We have had to make some changes as the government is keeping us on our toes but so far so good – I would like to thank you all for your support during these difficult times.

Its not looking like we will see any functions till well into the new year but hopefully we will be able to pick up where we left off before too long.

Following some troubles with the email accounts please note that I have changed my contact address to [socialsecsfcc@gmail.com](mailto:socialsecsfcc@gmail.com)

If you would like to join us for food on the Saturday evenings please send me an email to the above account. It would also be very helpful if you could let me know what you would like to eat. Whilst I appreciate this can be a challenge letting me know in advance will allow the chef and the waiting staff to get your meal to you in a timely fashion and will also allow us to take you orders for drinks.

The rules have changed – you need to wear a mask when moving about inside the club now. Come in and take your table in the restraint where you will be waited on for food and drinks. Please do not move about the club once in, apparently that is against the law now as is meeting in groups of more than six. You can of course move out from the restaurant to the bar area once you have finished your meal, just wear a mask when moving though.

Once again I would like to thank you for your continued support - See you in the bar

***Kerry Smith - Social Secretary***

***[socialsecsfcc@gmail.com](mailto:socialsecsfcc@gmail.com)***



## **Membership**

I am pleased to report that I continue to receive enquiries via phone and email from people interested in joining the club. I am optimistic that some of these will be keen to join in the New Year when hopefully everything starts to return to normal.

Current membership stands at 266. I am aware that some existing members have not renewed this year for a number of reasons, which has not been helped by the pandemic. However, I have recently interviewed another three prospective members whose names are on the notice board and are awaiting approval at the October Committee meeting.

***Lyn Allies - Membership Secretary***

***[sfccmembership@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sfccmembership@hotmail.co.uk)***



Congratulations go to Lorraine and Tony, who gained their RYA PB2 certificates over the August Bank Holiday weekend and also to Steve and Malcolm who passed the course in September. Really well done to you all!



All spaces are now taken on the RYA Powerboat Level 2 courses this year - please let me know if you would like to be added to the list and be first in line for a place on the 2020 schedule.

Due to the recent increase in CV-19 cases and the change in prevention measures, we have decided to defer the SRC/VHF course scheduled for Saturday 17th October, until Spring 2021. If measures at the time make it safe to do so, the plan is to hold two VHF courses in March/April. There're three spaces left currently, so please contact me if you would like to take the course next Spring.

### **Practical Sailing Courses**

If you would be interested in taking a practical sailing course at the club, please contact me to register your interest. There is no obligation at this stage, it is purely to gauge demand and viability. Potential courses that could be run are: RYA Basic Skills, RYA Start Sailing, RYA Day Skipper or RYA Coastal Skipper/Yachtmaster Offshore. The following courses currently remain on schedule with 1m+ social distancing measures in place.

### **RYA Powerboat Level 2**

- Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th October 2020

### **RYA Yachtmaster Theory**

- Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th January 2021, Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st January 2021, Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th February 2021 and Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th February 2021

### **RYA Diesel Engine Maintenance**

- Sunday 7th March 2021

### **RYA First Aid**

- Saturday 13th March 2021

### **RYA SRC (VHF) Marine Radio**

- Saturday 20th March 2021

- Extra course date to be added

The following courses are not currently scheduled, but could be organised if there is enough demand from members and that it is safe and practical to run them. PB1 and ICC for sail are not available due to the C-19 measures at the moment, but please register your interest in order to be at the top of the list when we are able to run them:

**Is it on your radar?** We are looking to further increase our course offering to members, by running the RYA Radar course at the club. In order to gauge interest, if you are keen to take this course or would like further information on it, please let me know.

**Encouraging young powerboaters!** Would any younger members of the club be interested in taking the Powerboat Level 1 course? This one day course is a fantastic and fun introduction to powerboating –



covering preparation, safety on the water and boat handling in a safe and controlled way. They might even be able to teach mum or dad a thing or two after completing the course! If you are the parent of a budding powerboater between the ages of eight and sixteen - please contact me for more information, or to arrange a course date.

**ICC for Sail.** As you may remember, last year SFCC became a registered ICC (International Certificate of Competence) test centre. We are able to offer any members who would wish to qualify for this, to take the test on their own boat with our Yachtmaster Instructor, Jim Wright. Further information on the ICC for sail is available on the RYA website, or if you would like to arrange taking test from the club, please contact me.

**RYA Essential Navigation & Seamanship.** This is a two day shorebased course, providing the perfect introduction to navigation and safety awareness for new or inexperienced boaters. We need a minimum of four students to run this course and I encourage any members who would like to take it to contact me.

**Sea Survival.** If we can gather six members who would like to gain the RYA Sea Survival certificate, I hope to be able to secure a group discount at one of our local training centres who offer this invaluable one day course. Please let me know if this is of interest to you.

If you have any questions at all or wish to book a place on any of the above courses please either catch me around the club, email me or call 07792 885 161.

**Dan Tucker - Training Coordinator RYA Centre Principal & Chief Instructor**  
*training@starcross-fcc.com*



Looking ahead there's plenty going on in the Club

**Fishing**

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> / Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Oct

**Flat Fish Competition**

**Social**

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct

**Saturday Night Cooking in the Brunel Restaurant**

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Oct

**Saturday Night Cooking in the Brunel Restaurant**

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Oct

**Saturday Night Cooking in the Brunel Restaurant**

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Oct

**Saturday Night Cooking in the Brunel Restaurant**

Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

**Saturday Night Cooking in the Brunel Restaurant**

**Training**

Sat 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> Oct

**RYA Powerboat Level 2 Course**

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Oct

**RYA SRC (VHF) Marine radio Course**



**Finally**

It's very hard for the club to plan ahead, especially as the Covid Goal Posts keep moving. What I can do is reassure you all we are constantly reviewing things to ensure we are 'Covid Secure' and I must thank everyone who has been able to support the club by coming back into the Bar on club nights and booking tables in the restaurant on Saturdays. I'm pleased to say we have received support from Teignbridge District Council and are holding our head above water. Please remember to regularly check our Facebook page and Website for the latest updates on what is happening – Stay Safe



**Peter Harris - Commodore**  
*info@starcross-fcc.com*