

# The SFCC Story – the first 60 Years



*In the beginning...*



there was Starcross Yacht Club, which is reputed to be the oldest Yacht Club in the World dating back to 1772, a claim which is disputed by the Royal Cork Club. Both Clubs have their origins in a Regatta or Sail Past. In Cork the Watermen's Association held an annual Regatta and at Starcross the "Gentlemen" had a 'Parade of Sail' past Exmouth.

In the mid 50's Starcross Yacht Club was a fairly small club with about 20 Redwing Dinghies. A few motor boats and cruisers were also kept on moorings at Starcross. Most people kept their tenders moored to Starcross pier, which was owned at that time by British Rail.

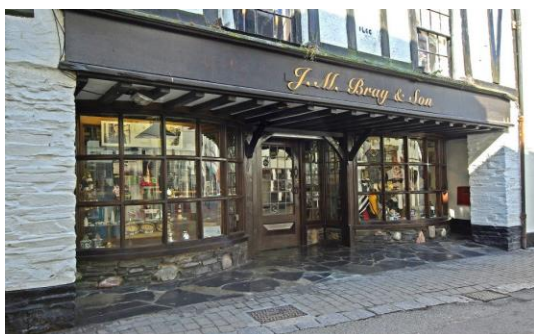
The Courtenay Arms Hotel was used for social events and was run by Norman and Bubbles Williams who were very supportive of the club.



Courtenay Arms Hotel

In 1958 Starcross Yacht club had an opportunity to move up river to new premises at Powderham which included a boat house on the Powderham Estate. Access was beneath the railway through a fairly low archway, but it had the advantage of a

Causeway, with direct access to the water and a pool where boats could be moored. However not all the boats moved up river, a few of the motor boats and cruisers decided to stay at Starcross as it was more convenient for them.



Jack Bray & sons - Looe

A band of fishing enthusiasts based around the Starcross area, which included some Starcross Yacht Club members, used to arrange shark fishing trips with Jack Bray of Looe, which is still trading today selling angling equipment clothing etc.

After a day's fishing they would very often stop off at the Bulls Head Inn in Callington on the way home for some food and a couple of drinks.



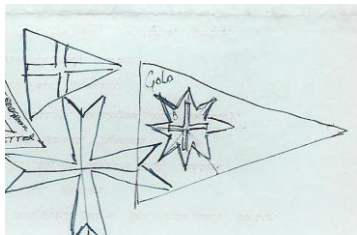
Bulls Head Inn

One evening the discussion turned to the facilities at Starcross and a suggestion was made that as SYC had moved up river there might well be scope for a separate club for the fishing and cruising fraternity.

As a result of this idea a meeting was held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1959 at the Courtenay Arms to decide whether there was sufficient demand for a new club or not.

The thirty people who attended that meeting unanimously voted Yes! and so the planning for a new club started which was led mainly by Ted Roberts.

A constitution was prepared and designs for a Club burgee were also considered.



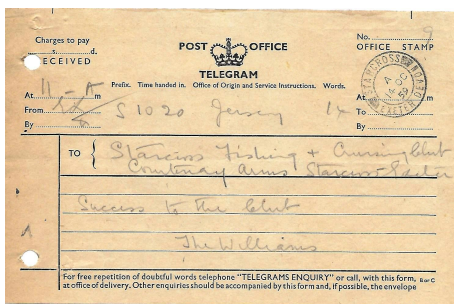
Original sketch of Clubs Burgee

NAME	ADDRESS	DO YOU WISH TO JOIN NEW CLUB?
1st Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
2nd Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
3rd Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
4th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
5th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
6th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
7th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
8th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
9th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
10th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
11th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
12th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
13th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
14th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
15th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
16th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
17th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
18th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
19th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
20th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
21st Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
22nd Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
23rd Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
24th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
25th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
26th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
27th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
28th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
29th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes
30th Lt. Roberts	125 St. Paul's Avenue, Exeter	Yes

Sign In sheet 26<sup>th</sup> August 1959

After a lot of preliminary work all the interested parties were circulated and an Inaugural meeting was held on the 14 October 1959 in the Courtenay Arms. It was attended by 57 people including wives and 3 juniors.

Norman & Bubbles Williams were on holiday in Jersey and couldn't attend the meeting but sent a Telegram wishing the club 'Success'.



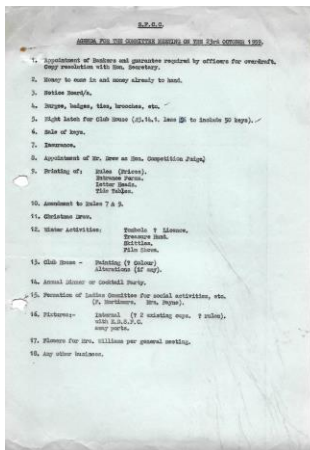
Norman & Bubbles Telegram

Brian Claridge was elected as Commodore, Ted Davey as Treasurer and Ted Roberts as Secretary.

Founder members were stated to be those who had not only attended the inaugural meeting but had paid their subscriptions.

Joining fees for the new Club were two guineas (£2.10) and the annual subscription one guinea for Gentlemen (£1.05), Wives were cheaper at 10/6 (52 ½ p)

The first Committee meeting was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1959.



First Committee meeting Agenda

Starcross Yacht Club had rented a small area of land which we now know as Ashes Quay from British Rail, which we still lease from the railways today.

It had a Pavilion with a Veranda affectionately known as the 'Pinch and Tickle' looking out over the estuary. The grass was kept as a neat lawn and tea and cakes were often served on Sundays.

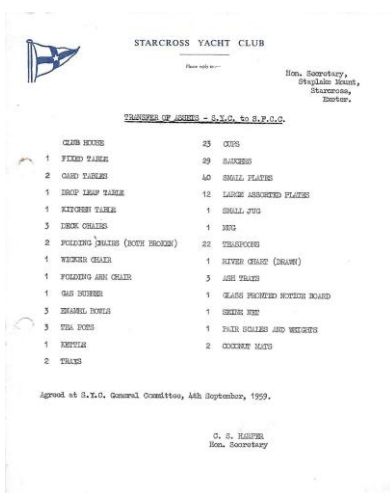
When we took it over a new lease was negotiated with British Rail for £12 per annum.



Ashes Quay & Pinch & Tickle



Pinch & Tickle Veranda



Fixtures & Fittings purchased for £60

The club purchased the fixtures and fittings from Starcross Yacht Club for £60 which as you will see included 2 broken chairs !

The Exe Deep Sea Fishing Club Newsletter included a message of best wishes to the New Club. It also noted that their distress signal was the same as ours and that they would be pleased to co-operate in mutual rescues!

You have to remember that not many people had VHF in those days

A vessel in distress either had to Hoist the Club Burgee to the Flag Staff or for smaller boats tie it to an Oar.

In November, Hockings of Dawlish quoted for burgees at 12s 11d each in wool or 14s 6d in nylon and wool.

Social evenings were held in the Courtenay Arms and known as 'Blue Jersey Nights'

A Christmas Party took place on 18<sup>th</sup> December which included a draw registered under the Lotteries Act. This was Gordon Mortimer's first Draw of many thousands of Draws, which always included a Mars Bar and a Drink over the Bar as consolation prizes.

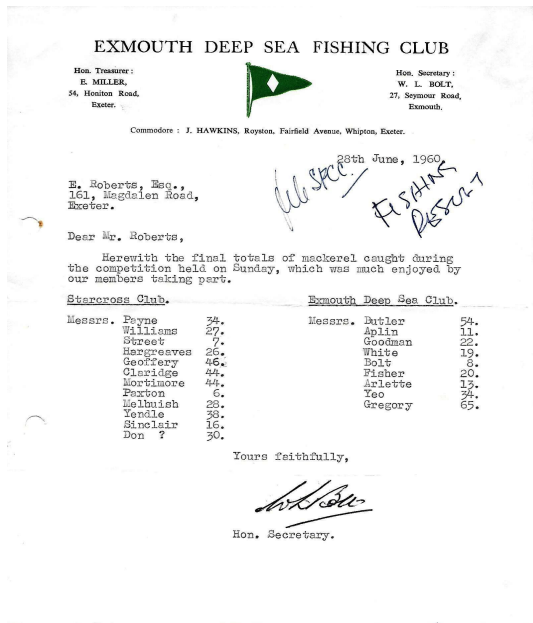
SFCC flourished and by the following May Ted Roberts reported that the membership had risen to around 150.

The Courtenay Arms was our headquarters for social evenings which were informal gatherings. The bar was tiny and was always crowded. It was a Mecca for 'spoof'.



Landlord Bubbles Williams and husband Norman couldn't have been more supportive of the Club.

Bubbles was a very keen fisher and could catch bass when no one else could. She had a sixth sense and always seemed to know where they were.



The Interclub Mackerel Fishing competition dates back to the very beginnings of the Club

The first Competition was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1960 .

Exe Deep Sea landed 246 Mackerel while SFCC Landed 346 – clear winners !

Shark Fishing was very popular and there was also an Interclub Shark Fishing Competition.



The above pictures show Clive Bastone reeling in his catch, Alfie Hall showing us how big the one which got away was, in typical fisherman style and then it was all too much for some.

The Club also on one occasion chartered the sailing boat Larvik and a crew of both sailors and fishermen set off to explore France and the Channel Islands .





Blue jersey nights were monthly gatherings in the Riverside Room at the Courtenay Arms with a film, talk or other matters of interest plus food and were always packed out.

Day and evening cruises extended to Turf and Topsham, later Shaldon and Brixham. A return in the dark from Turf was the norm, with no lit marks, just Poles and perches with the odd small marker buoys. Bearings were steered from one to the other in darkness and sometimes in fog without a problem.

Ted Roberts was a member of Exeter Rotary Club, John Dowell who was later a Vice Commodore, was Chairman of the Little Theatre. and Gordon had obvious links with the farmers, who together with the Police Club and others all came along for evening cruises and get togethers which were reciprocated.



The Farmers still visit the club today to play skittles.

The club quickly became very popular and was affectionately known by all as the Starcross Boozing & Cruising Club.

The club was, and still is, very special, while there are many sailing clubs and many Fishing

and Angling Clubs, we are the only Fishing and Cruising Club registered under the Community Amateur Sport Club scheme. Our members come from all backgrounds but have a common interest in both fishing and cruising.

Tommy Dell's father joined in January 1962 and was also called Tommy! Paul LeMilliere's father Jim joined in October 1969. Dick Wills, from Starcross Garage, and Dick Read from Westcraft Boatyard, both joined in 1963. A young Charles Mortimer joined as a junior in 1962. Peter Blinko, Alfle Hall and Clive Bastone all joined in 1966, Joyce and Tony Anthony, Dr Bill Colmer, Tommy Dell (Junior!), along with Richard Whalley and Geoff Holcombe from South Devon Boats all joined in 1968.

The Annual Dinner Dances in those days had at least four speeches. They were hugely entertaining, and top of the pops was - Gordon Mortimer.



The Langstone Cliff Hotel



Vic Taylor and his wife



Richard & Margaret Whalley

He only had to stand up and the room roared, He was a natural - people came just for his jokes. Members loved these events so much that letters of apology were sent for not buying tickets and telegrams were also sent regretting absence and wishing well for the evening.

The first in October 1960 was at the Countess Wear Hotel at a cost of 11/6d. We also tried out the Rougemont and Imperial at Exeter but the Langstone Cliff at Dawlish Warren became the favourite. In 1962 the Menu showed that the cigarettes were provided courtesy of WD&HO Wills and Players.

Fishing Competitions were very keen affairs - it was almost war. Dave Barnett was fishing secretary and jealously guarded the club rules as well as checking strict observance of the times members went in and out of the river and weigh-ins.

There was a shilling sweepstake at the end of the pier run by Bubbles for the overall total number of fish caught at the end of competition days.

Competitions were preceded by free drinks on Ashes Quay – no wonder they were popular! Afterwards food was pooled and laid out by the ladies with free cups of tea.

Competitions, including early sailing races were started with a shotgun at the old Bell Buoy. Some of the sailors used to watch their sails anxiously as Gordon wasn't too particular with his aim at times!

In 1964 Bubbles and Norman Williams retired as landlords of the Courtenay Arms and were given a presentation for their help over the years. The new landlord was a cockney, Cyril Beckley. All was well for a while but car parking became a problem and a bit of a running battle ensued mainly because the general public were abusing his car park. In the end we made a formal arrangement with him as he did value our business. However, he banned Dr Bill Colmer from the car park because he only drank half a Shandy.

In 1968 Whitbread gave us a trophy which was put up for our first sailing race.

Mike Rebbettes who was landlord of Mount Pleasant Inn at Dawlish Warren and won in 'Samantha' in 4 hours 32 minutes, Dr Bill Colmer came 2nd in 'Mist', Alfie Hall 3rd in 'Two Bells' Peter Blinks 4th in 'El Janina' which stood for (Elsie, Janet and Tina) in 6 hrs 19mins. Clive Bastone was noted as being unplaced and out of time in 'Sanderling' a 26ft Eventide.



Bray Harbour

Alfie was instrumental in getting our mini fleets crossing the Channel to Alderney, Guernsey and Cherbourg

He was quite a character and as a Ministry of Agriculture official, He had the distinction of disposing of the Navy's rum stocks at the end of the war but was always very cagey about how and where he disposed of it!

Many were the times Two Bells, El Janina and Sanderling were tied up together behind the breakwater in Bray Harbour.



Rick Whalley

The cross channel fleet soon expanded with Richard and Margaret Whalley in their 18 ft Hurley 'Gabriel' and Bertie Mossford in his Fairy Atalanta amongst others joining in.

In 1968 we became affiliated to the RYA and the National Federation of Sea Anglers. Ted Hayes and Albie Plain also put gas lighting in the Pinch & Tickle

By the start of the seventies the club continued to flourish, but was in need of its own Club House. The Spring News Letter of 1971 informed members that the committee were burning the midnight oil pursuing the idea of buying a house on the Strand for the clubs Headquarters.

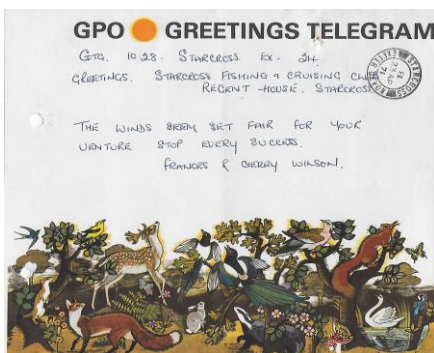
Regent House was the home of Captain Peacock who was born in 1805. He was a celebrated mariner, inventor and surveyor who invented the first screw propeller.

He also devised a way of turning salt water into drinking water and charted the waters in the area that the Panama Canal was built.



An Extraordinary General Meeting was held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 1971 and 121 members attended. Clive Bastone had produced a feasibility study and it was proposed by Alfie Hoar and seconded by Don Miller that the club purchase Regent House for the Sum of £7500 and that a sum not exceeding £2000 needed also to be raised to carry out the initial alteration to turn it into a club house.

Regent House was ideal for the club to put down proper roots in Starcross but it came at a price. The Committee offered members Bonds in multiples of £10 at an interest rate of 7%. and Life memberships were also offered to raise funds at £35 each. By April the purchase was complete



Frances & Gerry Wilson sent a Telegram wishing the club 'every success'.

By January 1972 work parties were busy demolishing the outbuildings ready for the builders to move in and turn the building into a Club House.





The outbuildings at Regent House being demolished before Sleeman & Hawkin the builders moved in

The News Letter in January 1972 talked about Alfie Hoare having some 'Blue Water' cruises lined up and said that the fishermen would not be disappointed either as new 'Marks' were to be published. It was also noted that Courtenay Yandle's boat should be launched in the Spring.

Subs were now £4 for Gentlemen, £5 for Family Membership and Ladies who were not married or attached were 75 pence with Outport members paying a £1.

Following the sterling work carried out by the work parties Regents House was ready for business at the beginning of 1973. The first event was held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1973 which was a 'Meet the Officers Night' and on 22<sup>nd</sup> February there was a Film Night.

The 6<sup>th</sup> April 1973 was a landmark day in the clubs history when Sir Alec Rose Officially opened the club



Alec Rose being signed in and unveiling a plaque marking the opening of Regents House

STARCROSS FISHING AND CRUISING CLUB  
 AFFILIATED CLUB MEMBER OF THE ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION  
 Headquarters: REGENT HOUSE STARCROSS EXETER, DEVON

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

We wish to propose: *Courtenay Yandle*  
 Name: *Sir Alec Rose*  
 Address: *10, St. Andrew's Road, Exeter, Devon*

As a Family/ Gentlemen/ Lady/ Other, Younger.  
 (Please indicate type of membership sought)

Details of boat if any: *None*

Proposed by: *Sir Alec Rose*  
 Proposer's signature: *Sir Alec Rose*  
 Seconded by: *Courtenay Yandle*  
 Secondor's signature: *Courtenay Yandle*

Notes: Persons under the age of 18 years wishing to join the club, other than under their parents' family membership, should apply to the Secretary for a special form, as parental consent is required for those members. Such members are entitled to admit to the clubhouse free of charge. Completed forms should be returned to the above address, or to the Honorary Secretary, No. 1, Courtenay Terrace, Starcross.



Alec Rose's Honorary Membership and Press Coverage from the Dawlish Gazette

Sir Alec was a very ordinary man who had a passion for single handed sailing. A greengrocer in Portsmouth it took him several years to save the money to purchase Lively Lady a 36 ft Ketch. He wasn't the first man to sail around the world, or the fastest, he was just the one



who did it with the least amount of fuss in 354 days and was made an Honorary Member of the Club.

The club continued to go from strength to strength, the Spring News Letter in 1976 spoke about an innovation on the cruising front, namely that cruises were going to be run down to Salcombe and Newton Ferrers for those who didn't wish to cross the channel.

Engine Racks were also installed in the Pinch and Tickle for the start of the season.

Another innovation mentioned in the News Letter was that the Flat Fish and Bass fishing competitions would be held in the evening between 5 and 9pm.

Moving on into the eighties there was always lots going on with the ever popular Gordons BBQ, a firm fixture on the Calendar.



Setting up the Bar Maggie Kid, Wyn Yandle & Joyce Anthony Cooking



And there was always a Paul Goody Disco !



There were also parties,

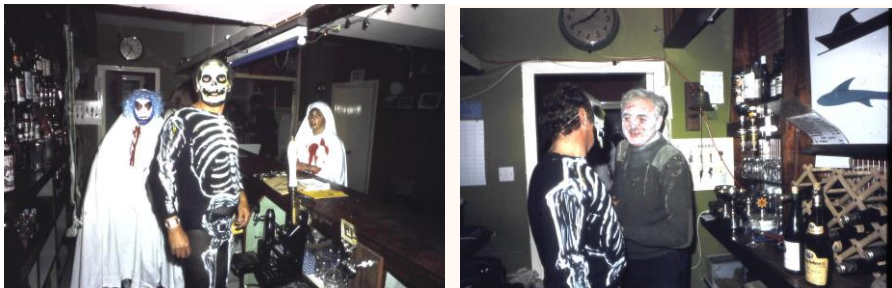


Ladies Nights where the men waited on the Ladies, as a thankyou for doing the Saturday

## Night Cooking



and Fancy Dress was encouraged.



In 1981 the club proposed to run a full range of RYA Courses including Competent Crew and Coastal Skipper, Yachtmaster Offshore and Yachtmaster Ocean. Courses ran in conjunction with Clive Bastones West Exe Charters from October to April and were about 2 hours a week.

In 1986 disaster struck David Langdon and his crew including club members Courtenay Yandle, Peter Lightfoot and John Gardener. Having competed in the ARC from the Canaries to Antigua, they set off on the return trip from Bermuda. On 2<sup>nd</sup> of February in Athinia, an Oyster 435, they left for Horta in the Azores,

About a day's sail away from Horta they were encountering winds of up to 90 knots and 70 foot seas. In all they were capsized three times by the end of which the boat was pretty much wrecked and all the crew had injuries. It was too rough for any rescue attempt but miraculously they managed to start the engine and limp into Horta and they all survived to tell the tail.

The 1989 Christmas Draw had some very interesting Prizes!

STARCROSS FISHING AND CRUISING CLUB  
Roll-up Roll-up Roll-up

# CLUB XMAS DRAW REVIVAL

8.0 p.m. Saturday 23 December

**Top Prizes** - Cordless phone and binoculars  
**Many others** - unique, useful and useless - Yes, there will be a few boobies around

**Traditionally** - Members also donate prizes - fruit, poultry, veg. whatever - try to be original - give freely - dip your hands in those pockets.

**Contact** - Fat and Chris Bosworth, Starcross 090270 - to say what you are giving - we already have a few specials to offer: Body Building Course - moving blocks in carpark - instructor 9 finger Hitchins - Stress survival course - Peter Kidd will train a new Commodore!

**IF YOU DON'T COME YOU'RE A LOSER** - but you can still win a PRIZE - **SO SUPPORT THE CLUB** - sell these tickets to anyone and everyone and then ask for **MORE** - the more sold the more prizes available. **CONTACT** again Fat and Chris for more tickets, to return money and stubs and prizes by 22 December, 1989 to TIDES, 35 COFTON HILL, COCKWOOD or bring them on the night.

MAKE IT A NIGHT TO REMEMBER BECAUSE IT IS ALSO

# CLUB XMAS EVE PARTY

Start your Christmas on the 23rd and have all day Sunday to recover before THE GREAT DAY!!

WE HAVE FOR YOU

Just a little Carol Singing (do you know her) to get you in the mood

Light refreshments (thank you Paul Goody for your help)

Keyboard music and dancing

Surprise home-made entertainment (Club members will perform)

Wow! on our new carpet - such talent!

AND THE DRAW OF THE YEAR

It's gonna be a great evening, so

GO GO GO - NO YOU FOOL - COME COME COME

OH! COME ON DO

Top Prize was a Cordless Phone and Binoculars

And the Special Prizes included a Body Building Course which consisted of moving heavy blocks in the Car park under the instruction of 9 fingers Hitchins.

John got that nick name after getting his finger stuck in the jaws of a digger bucket at the club. There was great concern as to which way to move the lever to open the bucket and release his figure. Fortunately it was moved the right way and John kept all of his digits!

Or you could win a Stress survival course in which Peter Kidd would train a New Commodore!

By the early nineties thoughts were turning to having direct access to the water. Brunel's Pumping Station seemed ideal. The Museum had closed and the Royal Bank of Scotland had put the building up for sale. Paul Goody, Nat Barkwill, Peter Cupit and Clive Bastone got together and talked over the idea of purchasing the Tower.

An Extraordinary General Meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1993. The Commodore John Hitchins explained to those present that the meeting had been called for by a group of members who wanted to put a proposal forward to Purchase the Atmospheric Pumping Station. Clive Bastone had produced Drawings showing how the building could be used.

At the end of the meeting the Commodore asked for a vote on whether the committee should further investigate the possibility of purchasing the building which was carried with 42 members in favour and 20 against.

Clive drew up plans and costed the works, the membership were split and it was an acrimonious time for the club but eventually after more EGM's the membership voted in favour of the acquisition of the Tower by 204 in favour with 37 against.

Members loans were sought to fund the purchase - The Interest on a £500 loan could be offset against your membership fee or dinghy and engine storage. You could also if you preferred take the Interest which was to be paid twice yearly at 8%.





Work began in earnest to convert the down stairs for Dinghy and Engine storage.



After a huge amount of hard graft by a dedicated band of members the ground floor was completed

Clive Bastone Officially Opened the Brunel Tower with the aid of Isembard Kingdom Brunel alias Brian Sampson on 30<sup>th</sup> April 1994



The club was now operating from two sets of Premises – Regent House continued as the Headquarters. While the Tower was used for waterside activities.

But by September 1995 it seemed impractical to continue with both buildings and a Ballot Paper was circulated on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1995 with a proposal to sell Regents House.

Work now started on completing the upper floors of the Tower to create the fabulous Club Room we use today.





On 31<sup>st</sup> October 1996 the Subs and Dinghy Space off set was raised from £500 to £800 and the interest rate was cut to 6%. By 1997 after a monumental amount of hard graft again by our dedicated work parties the building was finished.

Regents House had been sold and the Starcross Fishing & Cruising Club had waterside premises which were the envy of all the clubs on the river and beyond.

On 7<sup>th</sup> February 1997 Gordon Mortimer officially opened the new Headquarters for SFCC. The Commodore John Biddlestone summed it up when he said 'We only realised after we had brought it what a magnificent Headquarters it might be'. How true that was because after all the ups and downs, objections and fiascos the club stood united in its new Headquarters.

The new facilities offered so much, Function Room, Skittle Alley, Boat and Engine Storage, Showers, a fabulous Bar area and waterside access - it had everything – or did it?

It was still a bit of a chore even with the ramp from Ashes Quay and causeway down to low water to launch dinghies.

So when in 2011 the idea of a Pontoon System from ashes Quay where small boats could tie up and members could just walk down a ramp to them seemed like a great idea. However as with the purchase of the Tower there was a lot of opposition from some quarters.

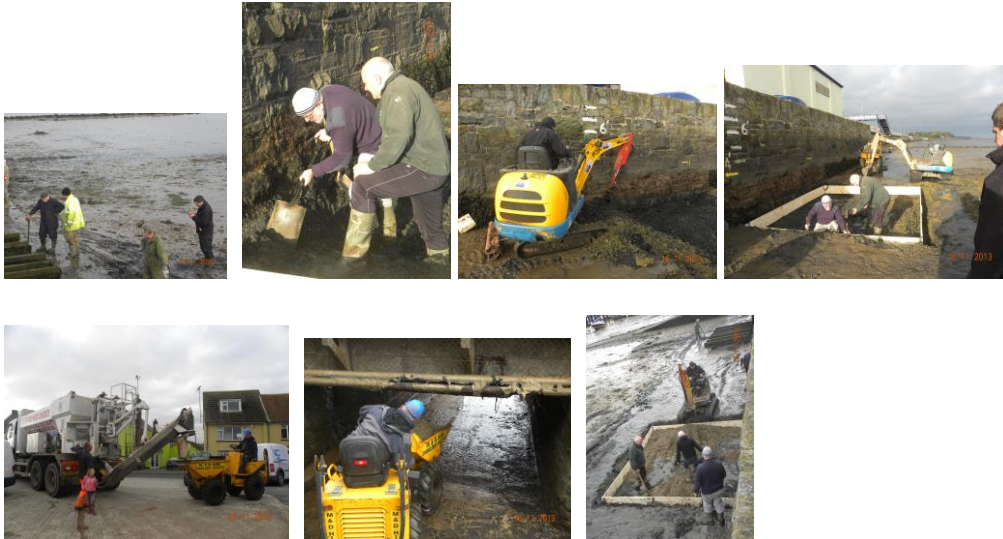
An Extraordinary General Meeting was called for 29<sup>th</sup> October 2011 and 23 members spoke and raised issues about the Project.

The proposal '*To Authorise the Committee to proceed with the construction of pontoons and a walkway linked to Ashes Quay, connecting the Quay to permanent navigable water*', was carried with 96 Votes in favour and 18 against and so began a 3 year project to get Planning Permission.

Being in a conservation area didn't help our cause, concerns were raised about the effect it would have on bird life and the worms when the pontoon floats settled in the mud, but in the end thanks to Phil Burrows perseverance, planning was granted in May 2013 and by September we had our MMO Licence.

Once again our Work Parties came to the fore starting work on the Bridge Unit which as you will see was a pretty impressive piece of engineering.

First a base was constructed for the Bridge unit to stand on.



While the base was being built others began building the gantry in Derek Turners Barn which was a major engineering project all of its own.



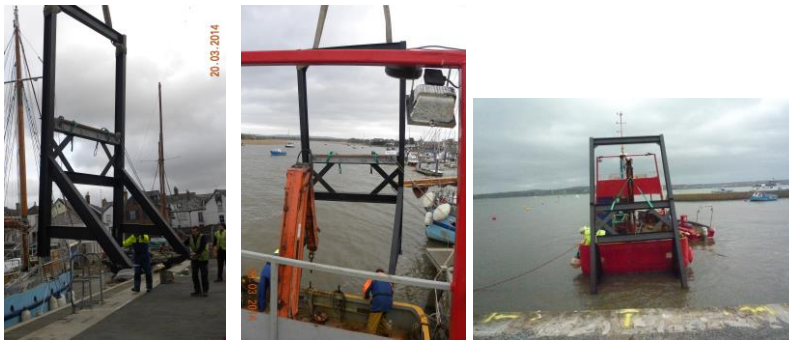
Having got things underway we needed to pay for it all, and while the club had funded the work so far from its reserves more money was needed to the tune of a Hundred Thousand Pounds! But we had no need to worry because when the club floated a Bond Issue to raise the funds, it was oversubscribed within 24hrs !

In July 2014 we were all set to go, the pontoons arrived by road at Topsham and were craned into the water by Trout's and a flotilla of small boats towed them down the river.



Simon Turl loaded the Gantry onto the back of his boat.

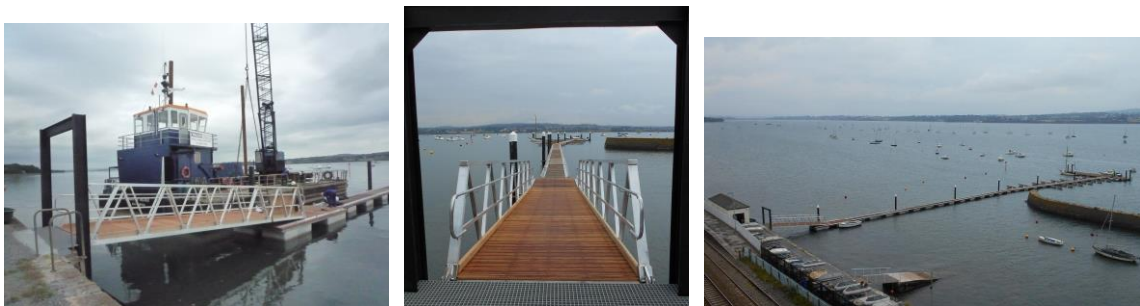
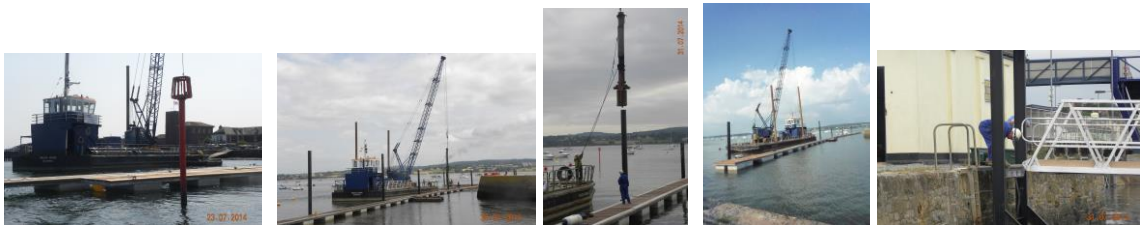




Once down at Ashes Quay the installation of the Gantry began - no mean feat for a group of volunteers



While all this was going on the Walcon Barge had arrived to put the Piles in and put the Pontoons together



On the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015 the Club Hosted a Buffet lunch for the members and local dignitaries and Lady Devon Officially Opened Brunel Landing.





We have had 15 Commodores over the last 60 years but there have only been 4 Presidents.

In fact the club didn't have a President to start with. Ted Roberts became the first President after he handed over the Commodoreship to Gordon Mortimer in 1967 and when Gordon passed the Commodoreship on to Peter Lightfoot, he then became President and served the club in that role for 36 years until he sadly passed away in 2017.

Gordon's enthusiasm for the club was infectious he was like a stick of Rock with SFCC in the middle. He had his own opinions which didn't always go down well.

But as a founder member he did more than anyone over the years to put the club on the map and ensure its success and he is someone we will never forget.



To sum up there is no doubt that our club is unique in as much as it caters for both Fishermen and Sailors alike. We all get on well together and at times enjoy each other's sports.

But there is one thing above all else which makes SFCC stand out above the rest – the dedication of its members. Without those fantastic work parties none of this would have happened and we rely on them just as much now as we did in the beginning.

The Friday Work parties continue to maintain and improve the club on a voluntary basis.

When the Brunel Landing was first proposed, the Honorary Treasurer suggested it would take between 8 and 10 years to repay – we did it in 5!

What next? – who knows but I'm sure the club is good for at least another Sixty Years!

Peter Harris – Commodore  
14<sup>th</sup> October 2019





ATTENDANCE AT MEETING AT COURTENAY ARMS

on 26.8.59.

Pre Formation to Sound View.

Name	Address	Do you wish to join new
W. Adam ✓	105 St Katharines N Exeter	Yes
Beda Mortimer ✓	Old School House, Powderham, N. Exeter.	Yes
Ada Langdon ✓ (Gordon Langdon)	Sandy Park, Old Rydon Lane Exeter	"
Jessie Claridge ✓	Newcourt Lodge Old Rydon Lane Exeter	Yes
Margaret Hogreave ✓	St Ellards Close Exeter	"
W. Hogreave ✓	St Ellards Close Exeter	Yes
John Wood ✓	Kilnigh House, Starcross.	No
D. J. Street ✓	St. St. Davids Hill. Exeter.	Yes
E. A. Mundy ✓	Howley Orchard	Yes
J. P. Poffen ✓	18 East Ave Exeter	Yes
J. P. Poffen ✓	18 East Ave Exeter	Yes
W. W. Williams ✓	Courtenay Arms Hotel	Yes
Mrs. Baskin ✓	Long Wycombe St. - Brixton Exeter	"
E. Carling ✓	" " " "	Yes
J. Jones ✓	6 New Road Starcross	Yes
J. P. Poffen ✓	2181 North Hill Exeter	Yes
R. H. Snelgrove ✓	Shakespeare Mount Starcross	Yes
L. J. Ball ✓	3 SIDWELL TERRACE EXETER	Yes
C. J. Gault ✓	Cofford Farm Starcross.	Yes
A. H. Payne ✓	The Strand Pharmacy, Starcross	Yes
H. M. Brewer ✓	Walsingham House - Starcross	Yes
B. V. Payne ✓	The Strand Pharmacy Starcross	Yes
Arthur Hume ✓	" " " "	Yes
J. P. Poffen ✓	Kimbroke Starcross	Yes
H. Dorey ✓	Craven St. 16 The Meade Exeter	Yes
T. J. Mortimer ✓	School House Powderham N. Exeter.	Yes
Page & Roberts ✓	4 Crescent Mansions, Exeter	Yes
G. S. Clardy ✓	Newcourt Lodge, Old Rydon Lane, Exeter	Yes
E. P. Williams ✓	C. A.	"

Total 32



Charges to pay  
.....s.....d.  
RECEIVED

POST OFFICE  
  
TELEGRAM

No. .... 9  
OFFICE STAMP



At 11-11 m  
From 11-11  
By 11-11

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

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At .....m  
To .....  
By .....

TO { Starcross Fishing + Cruising Club  
Comtway Arms Starcross Exeter

Success to the club

The Williams

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form, <sup>B or C</sup> at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope



S.F.C.C.

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE 23rd OCTOBER 1959.

1. Appointment of Bankers and guarantee required by officers for overdraft.  
Copy resolution with Hon. Secretary.
2. Money to come in and money already to hand.
3. Notice Board/s.
4. Burgee, badges, ties, brooches, etc. ✓
5. Night latch for Club House (£3.14.1. less 10% to include 50 keys). ✓
6. Sale of keys.
7. Insurance.
8. Appointment of Mr. Drew as Hon. Competition Judge.)
9. Printing of: Rules (Prices).  
Entrance Forms.  
Letter Heads.  
Tide Tables.
10. Amendment to Rules 7 & 9.
11. Christmas Draw.
12. Winter Activities: Tombola ? Licence.  
Treasure Hunt.  
Skittles.  
Film Shows.
13. Club House - Painting (? Colour)  
Alterations (if any).
14. Annual Dinner or Cocktail Party.
15. Formation of Ladies Committee for social activities, etc.  
(F. Mortimore. Mrs. Payne).
16. Fixtures:- Internal (? 2 existing cups. ? rules).  
with E.D.S.F.C.  
away ports.
17. Flowers for Mrs. Williams per general meeting.
18. Any other business.





## STARCROSS YACHT CLUB

Please reply to:—

Hon. Secretary,  
Staplake Mount,  
Starcross,  
Exeter.

### TRANSFER OF ASSETS - S.Y.C. to S.F.C.C.

CLUB HOUSE	23	CUPS
1 FIXED TABLE	29	SAUCERS
2 CARD TABLES	40	SMALL PLATES
1 DROP LEAF TABLE	12	LARGE ASSORTED PLATES
1 KITCHEN TABLE	1	SMALL JUG
3 DECK CHAIRS	1	MUG
2 FOLDING CHAIRS (BOTH BROKEN)	22	TEASPOONS
1 WICKER CHAIR	1	RIVER CHART (DRAWN)
1 FOLDING ARM CHAIR	3	ASH TRAYS
1 GAS BURNER	1	GLASS FRONTED NOTICE BOARD
3 ENAMEL BOWLS	1	SEINE NET
3 TEA POTS	1	PAIR SCALES AND WEIGHTS
1 KETTLE	2	COCONUT MATS
2 TRAYS		

Agreed at S.Y.C. General Committee, 4th September, 1959.

C. S. HARPER  
Hon. Secretary

# EXMOUTH DEEP SEA FISHING CLUB

Hon. Treasurer :  
E. MILLER,  
54, Honiton Road,  
Exeter.



Hon. Secretary :  
W. L. BOLT,  
27, Seymour Road,  
Exmouth.

Commodore : J. HAWKINS, Royston, Fairfield Avenue, Wipton, Exeter.

E. Roberts, Esq.,  
161, Magdalen Road,  
Exeter.

28th June, 1960  
*W. L. Bolt*  
*FISHING RESULTS*

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Herewith the final totals of mackerel caught during the competition held on Sunday, which was much enjoyed by our members taking part.

Starcross Club.

Exmouth Deep Sea Club.

Messrs. Payne	34.
Williams	27.
Street	7.
Hargreaves	26.
Geoffery	46.
Claridge	44.
Mortimore	44.
Paxton	6.
Melhuish	28.
Yendle	38.
Sinclair	16.
Don ?	30.

Messrs. Butler	54.
Aplin	11.
Goodman	22.
White	19.
Bolt	8.
Fisher	20.
Arlette	13.
Yeo	34.
Gregory	65.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.



STARCROSS FISHING AND CRUISING CLUB

AFFILIATED CLUB MEMBER OF THE ROYAL YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Headquarters :

REGENT HOUSE

STARCROSS

EXETER, DEVON

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

We wish to propose:- HONORARY MEMBER

Name... SIR. ALEC. ROSE

Address... WOODLANDS COTTAGE

EASTLIECH ROAD... Tel No. 77124 HAVANT

As a Family/ Gentleman/ Lady/ Cadet, Member. (Please underline type of membership required).

Details of boat if any... "Lively Lady"

Interests i. e. Sailing/Fishing/Motor Boating/Crewing.

Proposers signature... Eric Chodest

Seconders signature... J. Gordon Martin

Note. Persons under the age of 18 years wishing to join the club, other than under their parents family membership, should apply to the Secretary for a special form, as parental consent is required for these members. Such members are enrolled as cadets and no entrance fee is required. Completed forms should be returned to the above address, or to the Hon-Membership Secretary, No. 1 Courtenay Terrace, Starcross.



# Cruising club open

## **SIR ALEC ROSE PERFORMS STARCROSS CEREMONY**

**L**ONE world yachtsman Sir Alec Rose opened the Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club's new £20,000 headquarters at the weekend — and was promptly made an honorary member, writes DAVID HARRIS.

The man who followed in the wake of the late Sir Francis Chichester in his single-handed circumnavigation of the globe was "signed on" after a simple opening ceremony in the converted Regency manor house in the middle of Starcross.

Members—there are now over 300—did most of the decorating themselves while major constructional alterations were carried out by professional builders.

The work took two years. Fund-raising events organised by members contributed £4,000 towards the total cost and the rest of the cash was in the form of grants and loans from the Devon Playing Fields Association, a brewery and the bank, said Mr Gordon Mortimer, club commodore.

He said: "We are a family club catering for anybody who loves messing about on the water."

Sir Alec, who said he was impressed with the clubhouse, added: "The atmosphere is just right."



**Sir Alec Rose tries his skill at skittles at the club with Caroline Yandle (left) and Tina Blinko.**