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Commodores Update December 2025



Don't forget the Christmas Draw

There are some lovely prizes to be won, you can buy tickets online or over the bar.

Thank you to everyone who supported the RNLI Christmas Stall - it was a great night and our friends from Exmouth RNLI were very appreciative of our support. Your generosity also helped boost our own RNLI Fund for next years presentation.

Christmas Draw

Saturday 20th December

***Buy your Tickets in the Club
or on the Website***

1st Prize - £200.00

Cash Treasure Chest

2nd Prize - Garmin Touch Screen

Smart Watch

3rd Prize - River Exe Café Voucher

4th Prize - Deluxe Hamper

Plus more High Quality Prizes

***Don't worry if you can't be there on the
Night. We will arrange to get your
prize to you.***

**New
Years
Eve**



Bring a Plate Buffet

8 til late

I have attended various meetings with other clubs around the river to discuss the Harbour Revision Order, including the Port Users Group which will now be known as the Port Advisory Group.

The club has submitted a formal objection to the Maritime Management Organisation about the proposed HRO. I also contacted Martin Wrigley and David Reed, our MPs from both sides of the river. David Reed who represents Exmouth and Exeter East, responded immediately by submitting his own formal objection, which he kindly published to show his support. Sadly, Martin Wrigley was much slower to respond and will "monitor any developments". We have done all we can for now, and just have to see what happens.

Jon Seal's 'Shambler' Forum was a great success. Unfortunately I couldn't get there, but his video is very good and worth watching - <https://www.youtube.com/@Starcross-FCC>



CLUB BAR OPEN NEW YEARS DAY 1230 - 1530 in aid of the RNLI

IT Systems

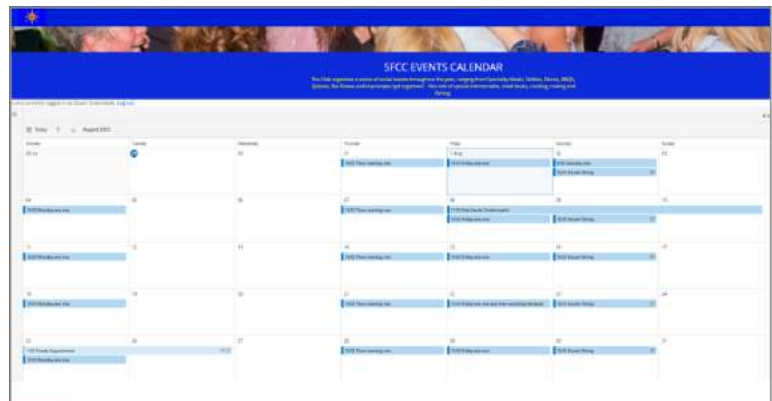
With our modernisation move to a cashless bar and online membership payments, we have been getting a few requests for help, which is no problem at all. The aim of this move to cashless is to simplify the operations for our members and volunteers. If you ever get stuck with something technical that is IT-related, then as always please email tech@starcross-fcc.co.uk
Here are a few tips...

MEMBERS AREA:

Includes: Events Calendar (*for all the latest info*), Committee Minutes, Members Webcam, Newsletter, Volunteering Sheets (*Coming soon..*), and of course a digital version of the Blue Book.

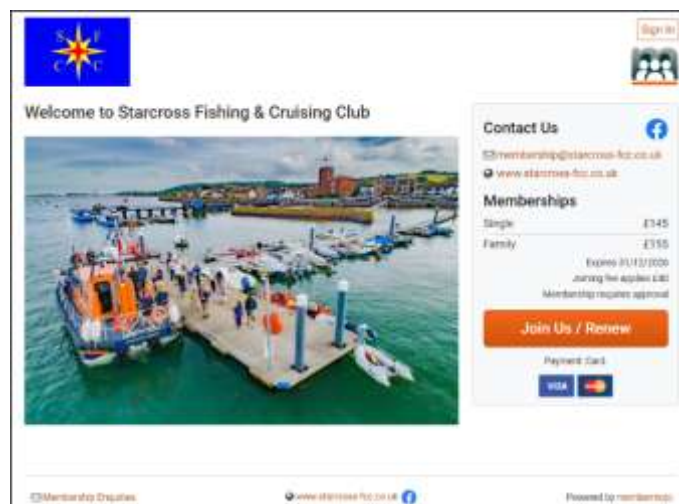


EVENTS CALENDAR: There is a one-stop-shop for all SFCC events now, that is the events calendar so make sure you stop by to check out what is going on. Handy to know if events have changed at all, especially the more weather-dependent ones. <https://starcross-fcc.co.uk/members/events/>



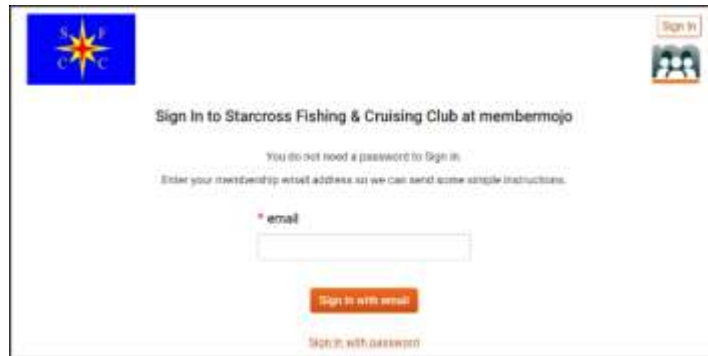
MOJO – Membership:

Many of you have already renewed using MOJO, Thank you.



STEP 1 - When you go to sign in, **it will email you a link** to click;

STEP 2 - Click that link in your email, and you can then get access to MOJO to select your membership requirements.



IMPORTANT NOTE:

Please check your vehicle registrations in MOJO. **These are what the parking system uses!**

Changes **MUST** be emailed to parking@starcross-fcc.co.uk to avoid receiving a parking charge.

DOOR ENTRY - We are gradually migrating away from physical key fobs to the new Smart phone app, which provides access to the clubhouse and Ashes Quay facilities. If you wish to have this convenient app, please email access@starcross-fcc.co.uk



The Paxton app is supported on many Android and Apple Smart Watches. Just search for " **Paxton Key**" in Apple iStore or Google Play Store.

If you are struggling and would like any assistance setting this up, please email access@starcross-fcc.co.uk



MEMBERS SURVEY

There is still time to complete the first SFCC Members Survey. Thank you to the many people who have already had their say.

If you haven't yet done it, there is still time to fill it out; most say it takes less than 10 mins.

<https://forms.office.com/e/PdWWX90FZn>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

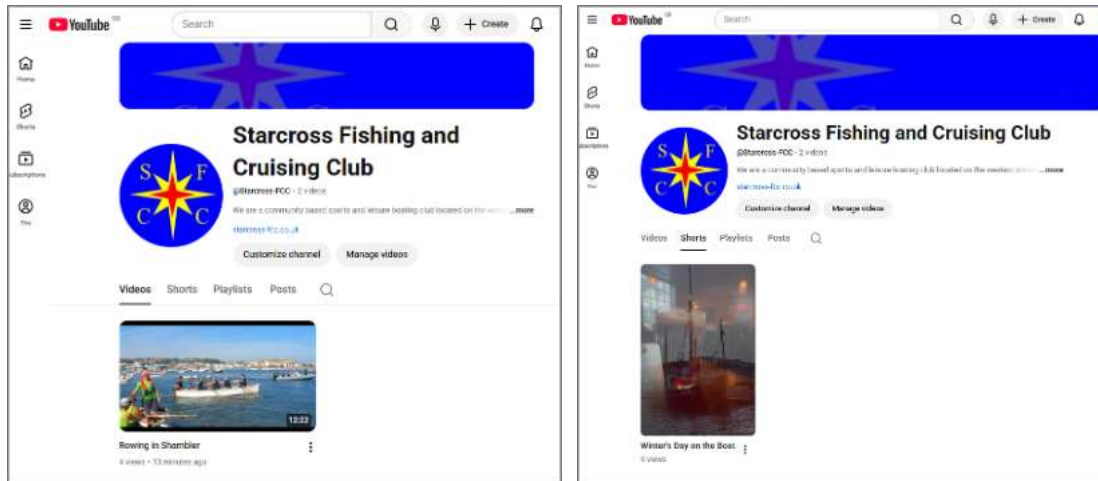
We have a YouTube Channel!

<https://www.youtube.com/@Starcross-FCC>

The content is building now but the idea is to capture life in the club. Our recent Friday Night Forum Video for Rowing can now be found there. Also an example of a Short video from a member showing a day out on the Exe and Lyme Bay.

We would encourage any members who like doing this, and wouldn't mind sharing similar short videos, perhaps a GoPro memory of a fishing day out, a drone flight, a club event. It helps build the club and community spirit.

Any contributions please email video@starcross-fcc.co.uk



Cheers! - Stuart

Stuart Greenslade - IT Manager
tech@starcross-fcc.co.uk



Waterside Team

December is here and the Waterside team are getting on with maintaining our pontoon by changing the connecting bolts and rubber doughnuts that get worn during every tide, but especially during storms. Thanks to Scott Harrison-Jones, Colin Seddon, Kev Williams, Jeremy Arthur, Tony Womsley and Keith Marshall for your input and enthusiasm. Please let me know if you would like to join the team.

I'd also like to thank Millie for managing Regents House Car Park during November and Jon Addison for maintaining the tractor so well.

I hope all members have a Happy Christmas and a restful New Year. Here's to an equally good season next year!

Adam Coupe - Rear Commodore
rearcommodore@starcross-fcc.co.uk

Paul Le Milliere - Boatswain
bosun@starcross-fcc.co.uk

John Addison - Bosuns Mate



Fishing

The Fishing Group held its annual meeting at the end of November and decided on the dates of the 2026 Competitions, which will be published later.

The idea of an 'Area Bomb' was once again agreed. This is when all members of the Club are invited to fish at a given spot and date. The idea is to encourage uptake of sea fishing within the whole membership.

A new award has been introduced called the 'Skipper's Cup'. It will be awarded to the skipper of the boat whose guest fisher catches an award-winning fish. As ever, weighing on board and catch and return of fish is encouraged.

Finally, I hope that Santa brings you some lucky underpants, or possibly some fish-attracting socks to enable you to land a mighty whopper!

Festive fun and frolics to you all!

Steve

Steve Cowell - Fishing Secretary

fishing@starcross-fcc.co.uk 07545 883402



Cruising

Saturday 17th January is our Annual Club Awards Night. This is one of the highlights of the SFCC year, and we really would appreciate you coming along to support it.

If you think you have completed a cruise that fulfils the criteria for any of the trophies below, then feel free to nominate yourself, and yes that is normal because nobody else knows what you have been doing. Otherwise propose someone else who you think is worthy.

The Sampson Cup

Personal Achievement by a Novice Sailor

The West Exe Cup

Notable Training Achievement

The Blue Boy Bowl

Notable Achievement by a Newcomer (Fishing or Cruising)

The Future Cruising Award
For Enthusiastic Young Person

The Seamanship Trophy
Demonstrating an act of 'Good Seamanship'

The Tomlinson Trophy
For the Saving of Life at Sea

The Piney Trophy
First Channel Crossing

The Rowe Shackle
For the Best Kept Log

The Langdon Long Distance Trophy
For the Longest Cruise

The Shapter Trophy
Most Miles Logged in One Season

Birdseye Power Trophy
For a Notable Cruise under Power

I need nominations - don't be shy!
Contact me on the email address below if you wish to nominate.

If you wish to participate in any of our club trips in 2026, please join our WhatsApp and Spond groups. Spond is a Communication App that is used for organising club events, which shows all the trip dates and allows people to chat and organise around specific cruises. Joining the Spond App is easy, just follow this link: <https://group.spond.com/UEKOF>

To join our WhatsApp cruising chat group, please email me your phone number at the address below and I will add you.

Richard Bentley - Cruising Captain
cruising@starcross-fcc.co.uk 07709 587814



Rowing

The chilly days have not stopped Starcross Fishing and Cruising Club's rowing outings. We have got Shambler on the trot mooring. She is sheltered by the wall and we have been paddling out in a dinghy to access her every weekend. Rows that have been cancelled due to poor weather have been swiftly re-arranged to the next day to make the most of the weekend light and tides.

We have a lovely idea to plan for the calmer days of going out on Shambler to enjoy the wildlife on the estuary. As the estuary falls quiet with the removal of most boats for the winter season, we are



often the only ones out there. This makes for perfect spying on the species that inhabit the Exe. If you are interested in coming, please get in touch. No rowing experience necessary, and if you don't want to row we can fit a passenger or two in the boat while the rest pull heavy on the oars.

The rowing highlight this month was Jon Seal's film about Shambler.

We gathered for a Friday Forum to celebrate the SFCC rowing initiative that carries on a tradition of using Seine boats on the Exe estuary that extends back a few hundred years.

Jon's joyful depiction of the Shambler getting out on the Exe, together with participating in the Seine boat races during Shaldon Regatta demonstrated the value and fun had by all. Thank you to Dr John and Leighton for their incredible folk music that we enjoyed while viewing Ben's creative Indian Ink drawings.

I felt very proud to be part of a club that is supporting it's members to get out on the water, keep fit, socialise, and support the club together. I recommend watching Jon's film and I think there are plans to put it on a Youtube channel for all to enjoy.

Emma Swanton - Rowing Captain
rowing@starcross-fcc.co.uk
<https://group.spond.com/ADOTH>



Social

SFCC Christmas Dinner will be held next Saturday (6th Dec), 18.30 for 19.00 sit down.

The Christmas Draw is on Saturday 20th December - It's always a great night and a chance to catch up with friends before Santa arrives. New Years Eve we have our normal party night, with bring a plate of food, to help celebrate the night away.

Kevin Rouse - Social Secretary
social@starcross-fcc.co.uk



Skittles

We finally won a game this week against the Exe Ladies - There were smiles all around.

We now have a long break over Christmas and New Year, with our next game, at HOME to Lymington Dolphins, on Thursday 5th February. All are welcome to play provided we know you're coming.

Please TEXT a message to Kevin Rouse on 07969 169534, or email - social@starcross-fcc.co.uk

Russell Thompson & Kevin Rouse

SFCC Skittles Coordinators - social@starcross-fcc.co.uk



I'm pleased to be able to launch our 2026 Training Program - Below you will find details of the Shore Based Courses we have planned for the new year. We will also be running several Powerboat Level 2 courses and I will confirm these dates as soon as possible.

There has been a lot of interest so far already so its important to let me know if you want to register for any of these courses as quickly as possible, as places are allocated on a first come first served basis.

RYA Day Skipper Theory - £295.00

This course is running over three alternate weekends. It enables you to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate safely in familiar waters by day, and learn how to apply the collision regulations and recognise lights at night. The comprehensive syllabus covers fundamental seamanship, navigation techniques, understanding tides, collision regulations, electronic navigation tools, weather interpretation, buoyage systems, and crucial safety practices.

Course Dates: Sat 3rd / Sun 4th January - Sat 17th / Sun 18th January - Saturday 31st January / Sunday 1st February.

RYA SRC / VHF Marine Radio - £75.00 + £76.00 Exam Fee

This is perfect for gaining the confidence and knowledge to legally use a VHF radio on the water. You'll receive lots of practice of Distress, Emergency and Security calls on real (training) radios, so... if you ever need to make a call out on the water you'll know exactly what to do. The course is run over one day with a small amount of pre-course work and is followed by a short written exam and practical assessment. Invaluable and essential if you don't already have it - Saturday 7th March.

RYA First Aid - £70.00

This is an invaluable and potentially lifesaving course, and MCA commercially recognised qualification! Gain experience and confidence in essential First Aid procedures and equipment, that could make all the difference, afloat or ashore! Covering how to use a Defibrillator (AED), CPR, cold water shock, breaks and burn treatment and much more! - Saturday 14th March.

RYA Diesel Engine Maintenance - £70.00

An excellent course which could prove invaluable to you if you have engine issues ashore or afloat, or wish to service your engine yourself! It's a one-day course featuring many elements of diesel engine types, maintenance and troubleshooting. - Saturday 28th March.

Peter Harris - RYA Centre Principal

training@starcross-fcc.co.uk



Looking ahead there's plenty going on in the Club



December

Sat	6 th	Christmas Dinner - 18.30 for 19.00
Fri	12 th	Guitar Jam - All Welcome
Sat	13 th	Saturday Night Cooking
Sat	20 th	Grand Christmas Draw + Saturday Night Cooking
Wed	31 st	New Years Eve Party + Bring a plate Buffet

January 2026 – Happy New Year

Thu	1 st	Lunchtime Bar in aid of the RNLI - 12.30 -15.30
Fri	9 th	Friday Forum - 30 Years in the RNLI with Steve & Louise Hocking
Fri	18 th	Guitar Jam - All Welcome
Sat	19 th	Annual Presentation of Trophies
Fri	23 rd	Friday Forum - Knots Road Show with Peter Ketcher and Ben Lowings



Finally

Looking back I think we have had a pretty good year, the Rowers had an amazing first Shaldon Regatta, some interesting fish were caught and the cruisers had some good sailing - and we even won a Skittles Match!

All this wouldn't happen without the hard work that quietly goes on in the background, so a big shout out and thanks to everyone who helped to make things happen. Please take a few minutes to complete our survey. Your feedback is very important and will help shape the future of our club.

Please put Friday 9th January in your Diarys - Back in July when we had our Lifeboat Presentation Night, Steve was about to stand down as Coxswain after serving over 30 years on the crew. Together with his wife Louise, whose Great Grand Father was also a Coxswain of the Exmouth Lifeboat, they are coming over to talk about their RNLI journey - which will make for a very interesting night.

I would just like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas, and don't forget if you have visitors over the festive period we would love you to bring them into the club. All you need to do is just sign them in.

Peter Harris - SFCC Commodore
commodore@starcross-fcc.co.uk

