

# **E.F.S.A.**

## **ENGLISH SECTION**



**MARCH 2017**

# **NEWSLETTER**

[www.efsa-english.com](http://www.efsa-english.com)

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2017**

### **CHAIRMAN:**

Neil Bryant..... Tel: 01752 881637 Email: nbryant@neilbryant.co.uk  
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### **SECRETARY:**

Kim Bowden Tel:02392 262420 Email: kimbowden@ntlworld.com  
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### **TREASURER:**

Keith Scaggs..... Tel 01903 602912 Email: keith.scaggs@ntlworld.com  
15 Haynes Road, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 7JY

### **MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR**

Gary Galbraith.....Tel: 07989 666489 Email: gary.galbraith@overbury.com  
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### **COMPETITION COORDINATOR:**

Keith Scaggs..... Tel 01903 602912 Email: keith.scaggs@ntlworld.com  
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### **PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER:**

Jim Whippy..... Tel: 01323 639889 Email: jimwhippy@tiscali.co.uk  
6a South Cliff Tower, Bolsover Road, Eastbourne. BN20 7JN.

### **PRESS OFFICER:**

Barrie Senior..... Tel: 07964 723615 Email [badgesenior@gmail.com](mailto:badgesenior@gmail.com)  
48 Mariners Way, Maldon, Essex, CM9 6YW.

### **SOCIAL SECRETARY**

Matt Osborne ..... Tel: 07900 080709 Email: [mattosborne1968@gmail.com](mailto:mattosborne1968@gmail.com)  
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### **BOAT FESTIVAL OFFICER:**

Andrew Selby Tel: 07773 607441 Email: selbyluck@btinternet.com  
85 Monmouth Road, Dorchester, Dorset. DT1 2DF

### **FISH RECORDER/SUPPLIES OFFICER:**

Andy Smith ..... Tel: 01273 880313 Email: [smithad@aol.com](mailto:smithad@aol.com)  
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### **SHORE FESTIVAL OFFICER:**

Barrie Senior..... Tel: 07964 723615 Email [badgesenior@gmail.com](mailto:badgesenior@gmail.com)  
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### **CHAIRMEN OF SELECTORS:**

Boat Section: Richard Russell – Tel: 01983 882133 Email: [richardrussell1w@hotmail.com](mailto:richardrussell1w@hotmail.com)  
Shore Section: Paull Curtice - Tel: 02380 879288 Email: [pauillacurtice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pauillacurtice@hotmail.co.uk)  
Game Section: Keith Scaggs – Tel: 01903 602912 Email: [keith.scaggs@ntlworld.com](mailto:keith.scaggs@ntlworld.com)

## **DIARY**

### **2017**

- April 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> English Species (Flatfish) – Weymouth.
- April 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> English Shore Championship - Eastbourne
- June 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> English Boat Championship - Poole
- July 26<sup>th</sup>/Aug 6<sup>th</sup> European Boat Championship, Maloy, Norway
- Oct 30<sup>th</sup>/Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> European Species (Flatfish) – Langeland – Denmark
- Nov 27<sup>th</sup>/Dec 4<sup>th</sup> European Shore Championship, Domburg, Netherlands.

### **2018**

- May 26<sup>th</sup>/June 1<sup>st</sup> European Boat Championship - Olafsvik – Iceland
- Sept 14<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> European Game Championship - Azores
- Sept 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> European Shore – Foce Varano (Foggia), Italy

### **2019**

- September 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> European Boat and Line – Weymouth (TBC)

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held at**  
**The Thistle Hotel, Poole on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 11:00**

**Present:**

Mr E.Entwistle	-	President
Mr N.Bryant	-	Chairman
Mr R.Ashby	-	Vice-Chairman
Mr K.Bowden	-	Secretary
Mr P.Hart	-	Treasurer
Mr G.Galbraith	-	Membership Registrar
Mr A.Selby	-	Boat Festival Officer
Mr B.Senior	-	Shore Festival Officer
Mr M.Bobbett	-	Press Officer
Mr M.Osborne	-	Social Secretary
Mr K.Scaggs	-	Competition Coordinator
Mr A.Smith	-	Fish Recorder

**1. Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from the following:

J.Whippy	S.Trinder	T.Matchett	T.Porrit	A.Sindrey	R.Amor
M.Wuest	R.Wheeler	D.Styles	B.Lavis	S.Bachelor	C.Searles
N.Cottingham	S.Jones	R.Barron	P.Dack		

A total of 37 full members were present together with 3 members of Affiliated Clubs.

**2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2016:**

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Paull Curtice, seconded by Richard Russell and accepted unanimously. The Minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Executive Officer's Reports:**

**President's Address:** Mr Entwistle gave the following report to the meeting.

Welcome everyone to our Section's AGM. It is my pleasure and privilege to be here. As well as the AGM itself, it gives us all an opportunity to renew friendships and generally catch up on what we have missed. I am glad to know that the Section continues to move ahead and has once more achieved and promoted a year of varied fishing opportunities for the members. I was particularly pleased to note that the Section Championship finally took place in Penzance, albeit at the second attempt and that there were some marvellous and unusual catches. My congratulations

go to all the successful anglers at this year's events and to all the members who have supported the Section's various competitions throughout the year.

I also offer my congratulations to Kim Bowden and Andy Smith for the roles they have taken on with EFSA HQ Executive as Treasurer and Game Festival Officer respectively. I hope you will offer them your support if you are in a position to do so and this also applies to all the Section's officers who invariably require the member's assistance to bring about successful events on your behalf.

I would like to thank Neil and the committee for all their hard work during the past year; they are really unstinting on our behalf, and also the committee member's families without whose help we would really struggle. Thank you all for attending today. May we have a fruitful and productive meeting.

***Chairman's Report:*** Mr Bryant gave the following report to the meeting.

I welcome you all to the 2017 EFSA England AGM here in Poole and must say how much we appreciate you turning up to listen to each officer's report and to find out first-hand what is happening with the Federation over the coming years. Not only those within EFSA England but also those within EFSA.

Let me first reflect on the 2016 and the events we organised, those we may have attended, those we had to change due to bad weather and those that went ahead as planned. The beginning of the year saw the Flounder Fun Fish once again being hosted from Poole and with over 70 flounder being landed. Let's hope we all have the same tomorrow. Unfortunately, we had to postpone the English boat from May to November. However, the skippers did a great job and I am sure we will be returning to Penzance again soon. Staying with the boat events, our English Species Festival in Minehead was not such a great success fish-wise, but we appreciate the support and efforts of the skippers and anglers.

The English Shore Championships were organised by Barry Senior with the support of Paull Curtice and did a super job, although we were very low on entries, but I know that we are working on the development of shore events. Our section was well represented in all the main Championship events through the year and the feedback has all been very positive.

Well, other than the experience we all had with the Riviera Hotel in Weymouth when we hosted the Species Championship, be assured this has now been dealt with by Ray Ashby, to whom I thank for his hard work in resolving the situation and I do not see us returning soon. All the reports on the events were published in the newsletter and on the website so I hope you have had time to look over them.

Moving onto the other important developments within the section. Within the Committee there are a few changes as Paul Hart, our Treasurer, has decided to stand down and I thank Paul for all his work these past ten years. Keith Scaggs, our

Competition Coordinator, has kindly taken over the position. Martin Bobbett has also decided to leave the Committee, so thanks Martin for all you have done. Barrie Senior has stepped into the position to run alongside the Shore Festival position and again thank you Barrie. May I also confirm that Kim Bowden and Andy Smith have joined the HQ Executive, but I am pleased they are both staying within the England Committee. Good luck and thank you once again all.

We have invested in creating a new web based results programme that will be introduced this year and this will improve the management and collation of the results and this will mean that others can do them as opposed to relying on Andy. We have also invested in updating the website so that it is more interesting and introduced a new EFSA England Facebook Page so please do look. It is important that we continue to invest in the Federation and try to keep up with the ever-changing world we now live in that includes social media to keep everyone updated. We are also looking at other ways to make the events more affordable whilst still maintaining some surplus so that we can continue to run the section and keep membership costs down. It maybe that we look to only print one Newsletter a year because most if not all members have access to the website so we have to ask ourselves if a printed version is indeed required but be assured we will always do what is best to maintain the standards of the section.

With respect to the financial status and membership, you will all see from the report numbers have dropped a little but we maintain a healthy financial position whilst noting we made another loss within the accounts. These losses represent the development costs we have made over the year, so the bottom line is we are keeping ahead of ourselves and looking after our positions. That said, we still need to look again at how we can attract new individual members and affiliated clubs to join us, so be assured we will keep pressing buttons to get some new blood flowing within the section.

This year we will be focusing on our home events whilst planning next year's European Species Championship so that means another busy year for the committee. It is now that I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their support and time in looking after and running the section, you are a great team and I know and appreciate all the work you have done and will be doing for the membership. Finally, I would like to congratulate all the trophy winners, especially those who have been able to be with us today to receive their awards and for sitting through our AGM. It is appreciated. I also thank you all for attending today and I must say a special thank you to Tony for once again taking the minutes of the meeting, it is his way of keeping us all on our toes I am sure.

Well, I will close by wishing you all a successful competition year and hope you will continue to support most, if not all our home events and indeed try to do several of the Headquarters Championships, they are great fun and one continues to learn more about our sport and tactics. Most of all have some fun and remember, it is only fishing.

***Vice-Chairman's Report:*** Mr Ashby gave the following report to the meeting.

It is nice to be here at this year's AGM having missed the last two 'down under'. Another busy year once again for the Section highlighted by the EFSA Boat Championships in Weymouth which was a great success. The well-oiled administrative 'machine' slipped into place and as a fishing event was well run well organised and enjoyed by all that I spoke to. The event was only marred by the unfortunate inability of the HQ hotel in coping with an event of this stature, something noted for any future similar requirements at this venue. Special mention should go to Andy Selby, supported by Charlotte and the Team at Weymouth Angling Centre, for their continued efforts and involvement in this event and the many others involving EFSA during the year.

I look forward to continuing to support the Section where I can, for what appears to be another full calendar of events in 2017.

***Secretary's Report:*** Mr Bowden gave the following report to the meeting:

Last year we were again affected by the weather, but at least all Championships went ahead and were generally well attended and as is often the case, we should have been there couple of weeks either way when the fishing was better. I am sure all competitors appreciate that dates have to be set a year in advance based on how fishing is expected to be at that time of year, but as we all know, in twelve months things can be totally different. More on that later in the meeting on how each competition went.

This past year I took entries for European Boat and Line and European Shore as well as liaising with all Sections on arrangements, hopefully keeping all that were entered from England up to date with information on events as soon as I knew it. Other than the above, I have been keeping in contact with our members and other Sections almost entirely by email when questions have been asked or information requested.

To 2017 - and let us hope the winds are kinder to us than the last couple of years. Two things to mention here - although they were mentioned in my last newsletter report. Firstly, EFSA Iceland are hosting their own Section event at the end of May and is being run as a tester for a scoring system for 2018 when they are hosting the European Boat. So far, 18 from England have shown an interest in going and as soon as I get detail of accommodation, I will be able to give a full costing of the event so that members can decide for sure if they want to fish it. So if anyone else is interested, please let me know. Secondly, an invitation has been received from EFSA Belgium to fish their Friendship Cup but unfortunately, this is at the same time as the Iceland event. However, if anyone wants more information on this, then please contact me.

All the other events for 2017 will be covered later in the agenda. If you are looking to enter an event then either get your entry in early or, if intending to enter near closing date, put a reminder in your diary so that you do not forget. In boat competitions

space is limited to the number of boats so by entering later there is possibility of not being able to fish it. You have been warned!

It now just leaves me to say a big thank you to the rest of the committee for their part in ensuring the Section runs smoothly. There is a lot of work that goes on that is unseen by members and competitors that is all done with the aim of giving you a good time at events, though there is inevitably the odd hiccup which is beyond our control. We always welcome constructive feedback on events and suggestions, so if there is something you want to say, then say it to one of the committee not to your mate at the bar.

Finally, I hope your fishing goes well for 2017 and hope to see you on a boat or beach at some time in the year.

**Treasurers Report:** Keith Scaggs, as Acting Treasurer gave the following report to the meeting:

Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

This year has been similar to last where the weather has been a feature again. The year started with a poor take-up of the Fun Fish (Poole Flounder) which made a loss, the English Boat Championship had to be rerun later in the year due to weather. We also held the Euro Species out of Weymouth which gave us a helpful profit. The basic details are as follows

The English Species was held after the close of the financial year and so will be included within the 2016/17 accounts.

Membership was stable generating income of £1790.00. Membership of Affiliated clubs generated income of £100.00. Festivals made an overall profit of £2930.00 which includes £2455.00 from the Euro Species at Weymouth. Bank interest stayed the same at £20.00 and Stock profit was up at £96.00.

This gave the Section an overall income of £4836.00

Expenditure this year was similar to last year at £3392.00 giving the section an overall profit of £1444.00

We have made two Extraordinary Purchases this year. The first was to update the website and the second was a brand new results program to replace the old and somewhat out of date program. The total cost of these two items was £2250.00. This created an overall loss of £806.00 for the year.

As Acting Treasurer, I will not recommend a raise in the membership subscriptions at this time, but we will continue to constantly review the Section's financial situation.

Balance sheet is available to Members on request.



A short discussion followed regarding some minor points for clarification and the Chairman thanked Keith Scaggs for stepping in, Jerry Knight for doing the audit and Paul Hart for all the work he'd done over the past 10 years.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by A.Hudson, seconded by K. Bowden and accepted unanimously.

***Membership Registrar's Report:*** Mr Galbraith gave a very brief report in which he advised the meeting that the Section comprised 90 Annual members, 67 Life members and 10 Affiliated Clubs. There were 9 new members joining during the year but overall membership of annual members remained roughly the same.

***Fish Recorder's Report:*** Mr Smith gave the following report and details to the meeting.

As ever, this year's entries were a mixed bag with some average fish and some exceptional ones being recorded. Of particular note are Andy Selby's 5lb 2oz boat caught black bream, Nigel McLoughlin's 80lb 0oz boat caught conger eel, Ryan Casey's 34lb 9oz boat caught blonde ray, Cliff Williams's 4lb 2oz whiting, Pete Wood's shore caught 10lb 2oz bass, Alan Painter's 3lb 12oz shore caught flounder and Reg Clough's 2lb 10oz shore caught golden grey mullet.

Junior fish of the year was won by ten year old Seth James with a fine ling of 24lb 15oz. The Committee had a considerable task in selecting the overseas fish of the year and the Norman Witt trophy. In true democratic fashion the winners were voted on by the Committee. The overseas fish of the year was hotly contended with Dave McCune's 46lb 8oz rooster fish and 140lb 0oz striped marlin and Neil Cottington's 77lb Atlantic Sailfish all being considered. However the Committee felt that Andy Selby's 660lb tiger shark should be awarded the trophy particularly as it was caught on 50lb mono line. Again the Committee had a tough job selecting the overall fish of the year with Kev Lewis's 19lb 8oz smoothound and Reg Clough's 2lb 2oz golden grey mullet receiving votes but the majority decision was for Andy Selby's 5lb 2oz black bream.

Please keep your entries coming in for 2017. The first results will be posted on the website towards the end of January.

***Public Relations Officer's Report:*** In the absence of Jim Whippy, the Chairman gave the following report to the meeting.

Once again, I must apologise for missing the AGM, but Florida calls. For those of you who not aware, I came out of retirement early in the year to edit Saltwater Boat Fishing magazine for Tim Macpherson, who shares my boat with me. He had this silly idea of starting a new magazine and I went along with it by agreeing to be editor. I have managed to include a page for EFSA in the magazine and this has been due help from our retiring Press Officer, Martin Bobbett, Kim Bowden and Andy Smith, who

has sent me many photos. Neil Cottington has also been very supportive and in fact has written a great piece on his trip to Cape Verde that will be published in the magazine due out around the 20<sup>th</sup> January. We welcome any pictures of your catches so we can keep the page up to date and informative.

***Boat Festival Officer's Report:*** Mr Selby gave the following report to the meeting.

As in previous years, I would firstly like to thank all the support I've had from the committee and members during this year's busy schedule - it makes the running of events and life in general so much easier. Last year did not start too well with our first major competition at Penzance being cancelled. We did re-arrange for October, and I am glad we did, as it proved to be an amazing fishery and I'm sure we will return there very soon.

We held the European Species (Conger) in Weymouth which was a success, although we did have problems with the HQ Gala buffet. Please be assured that we will have a different HQ Hotel for the next major championship held in Weymouth.

In 2017 we will be returning to Poole for our English Boat Championship and the English Species Festival will be returning to Weymouth targeting flatfish and rays.

Again, I would like to remind members to get their entries in early as places are limited on all our events. We are finding fewer boats each year and very few ports now have more than 5 boats. It also makes our competition co-ordinators job difficult if members don't enter by the close of entry date.

Finally, may I wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to another busy fishing year and meeting you at our events.

***Shore Festival Officer's Report:*** Mr Senior gave the following report to the meeting.

The first match of 2016 for the Section's anglers was the European Shore Championship held at Kilmuckridge in Ireland with ten anglers attending. Despite a good practice day for some during the event this could not be repeated in the Championship. The best result in the three-day match was a zone win on the last day for Stuart Jones which took him to 7<sup>th</sup> place overall.

The 2016 Section Shore Championships were held at Aust and Littleton-on-Severn fishing a muddy Severn estuary. Numbers fishing were slightly down on the previous year and so were the number of fish caught. However, all anglers caught something, but it was the retiring Shore Officer Paull Curtice who succeeded in taking top spot.

This year the European Shore Championship is due to be held at Domburg in the Netherlands from November 27<sup>th</sup> to December 4<sup>th</sup>. Several of us are already looking forward to booking our places once full details are available.

The 2017 Section Shore Championship will be at Eastbourne on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April with a variety of species expected, including plaice if we are lucky. Eastbourne has plenty to offer visitors so is an ideal venue to take partners and make a weekend of it. The matches will take place in the morning leaving late afternoon and evening available for socialising and catching up with fellow anglers.

***Press Officer's Report:*** Mr Bobbett gave the following report to the meeting.

Hopefully, members have picked up a copy of Saltwater Boat Angling to return Jim's favour of producing an EFSA England page. We have had a few EFSA reports printed in last year's magazines and we hope for more this year. All members are welcome to forward photos of fish and a brief description of where, when and how they were caught.

Congratulations to last year's competition winners. Richard Russell added to his vast collection of pins by winning the species event in Minehead. Ray Barron also added a further English Boat gold pin in Penzance and I'm sure that we will return to this venue at some time in the future as the practice day certainly showed how good the fishing can be. Perry Dack took gold at the European Species event in Weymouth and Paull Curtice took the honours in the shore event.

After seven years as your Press Officer I have decided to step down. I would like to say a big thanks to all the committee for their support and the hard work that they put into ensuring our events run as smoothly as the weather allows and I trust that events will continue to be run in the same manner in the future. I will continue to maintain the EFSA England Facebook page.

Finally, I would like to wish Barrie Senior good luck with his new position. I hope you all have a fantastic year.

***Social Secretary's Report:*** Mr Osborne gave the following report to the meeting.

Investigations are currently underway with regard to travel and accommodation for the various overseas competitions to be held this year. Accommodation has already been booked for Langeland but travel arrangements to Norway are proving to be difficult due to the venue location, but there are options available. Anyone wishing to go on any overseas trip this year should contact either him or the Secretary for the latest information. Mr Osborne welcomed all donations in form of prizes for raffles.

***Competition Co-ordinator's Report:*** Mr Scaggs gave the following report to the meeting.

As we start a new year, entries for the English Boat, Species and Shore have started to arrive, so remember to get your entries in early as places can fill up fast. This last year more members are now using electronic banking system to pay for competitions

which makes the process easier and eliminates the problems of the bank returning unpaid cheques.

I would like to remind members that we still do need a completed entry form this is so we can tie up with the monies received and these can be emailed or posted to me. Apart from all that, may I wish you all a good year's fishing, and have an enjoyable time.

A request from the floor was made for an amendment to the entry form format on the website as only forms as pdfs were currently in uses and it was suggested that changes could be made so that electronic entries could be made using Word documents or similar formats. The committee agreed to make these changes and advise accordingly.

***Standing Committee Delegate's Report:*** Mr Bowden gave a brief report on S.C. matters – reports of which appeared in the October 2016 Newsletter. The Chairman gave additional information to the meeting relating to changes and proposals currently being discussed for future Line Class Championships.

#### ***5. Reports on Championships & Festivals in 2016:***

##### ***a) Fun Fish (Flounder) Competition – Poole.***

Mr Selby gave a brief report on the event, a full report of which was given in the April Newsletter and on the EFSA England website.

##### ***b) English Species Championship (Cod) - Minehead***

Mr Selby gave a report on the event held in November. A full report will be given in the next Newsletter.

##### ***c) English Shore Championship – Aust & Littleton***

Mr Senior gave a brief report on the event, a full report of which was given in the October Newsletter.

##### ***d) English Boat Championship - Penzance***

Mr Selby informed the meeting that although the event was originally cancelled due to the weather, he was pleased that the rearranged Championship proved to be a huge success. A full report will be in the next Newsletter

##### ***e) European Species Championship (Conger) – Weymouth***

Mr Selby gave a brief report on the event, a full report of which was given in the October Newsletter and the website.

*f) European Shore Championship - Ireland*

Mr Bowden gave a brief report on the event, a full report of which was given in the October Newsletter and the website.

*g) European Boat & Line Class Championships – Cobh, Ireland*

Mr Bowden gave a brief report on the event, a full report of which was given in the October Newsletter and the website.

**6. Presentation of Fish of the Year Awards.**

Ted Entwistle, assisted by Andy Smith, made the following presentations.

**BOAT**

Bass	Neil Cottington	9lb 8oz	
Black Bream	Andy Selby	5lb 2oz	
Cod	Kim Bowden	28lb 8oz	
Conger Eel	Nigel McLoughlin	80lb 0oz	
Plaice	Andy Smith	3lb 8oz	
Pollack	Alan Bird	17lb 10z	
Ray – Blonde	Ryan Casey	34lb 9oz	
Smoothound	Kev Lewis	19lb 8oz	
Whiting	Cliff Williams	4lb 2oz	
Wrasse – Ballan	Ian Burden	5lb 10oz	
Other by %	Alan Bird	2lb 2oz	Garfish 170%

**SHORE**

Bass	Pete Wood	10lb 2oz	
Black Bream	Kyle Bowler	3lb 3oz	
Cod	Ryan Casey	10lb 13oz	
Conger Eel	Noddy Coan	10lb 6oz	
Flounder	Alan Painter	3lb 12oz	
Pollack	Andy Stone	1lb 11oz	
Mullet – all by %	Reg Clough	2lb 10oz	Golden Grey 175%
Wrasse – Ballan	Pete Wood	5lb 2oz	
Other by %	Dave Vye	1lb 12oz	Three Bearded Rockling 117%

**Junior Fish of the Year** Seth James – 10 yrs old 24lb 15oz Ling 96%

**Overseas Fish of the Year** Andy Selby 660lb 0oz Tiger shark

**Conger Club Tankard** Nigel McLoughlin 80lb 0oz

**Norman Witt Trophy** Andy Selby 5lb 2oz Black bream

**7. Election of Officers:** Prior to the election of Officers, it was agreed that the positions would be voted en-bloc, as there was only one nominee per vacant position.

The positions for 3-year terms of office, unless stated otherwise, were as follows:

**Treasurer** Nominee Mr K.Scaggs

**Press Officer** Nominee:Mr B.Senior

**Membership Registrar** Nominee:Mr G.Galbraith

**Competition Co-ordinator** Nominee:Mr K.Scaggs

Acceptance of all the above were proposed by M.Smith, seconded by C.Williams and accepted unanimously.

**8. Election of Hon. Auditor:**

Mr J.Knight was proposed as Hon Auditor by P.Curtice, seconded by R.Russell. There being no other nominees, Mr Knight was duly elected for a one-year term of office

**9. Reports on Championships & Festivals for 2017:**

a) Fun Fish Competition – Poole:

Mr Selby gave details of the event to be held the following day and confirmed that all fish would be measured and returned.

b) European Species (Flatfish) & Line Class Championships (Conger) – Langeland:

Mr Bowden informed the meeting that some accommodation had already been booked and that anyone not yet entered, but wishing to go, should contact him for all the latest information and arrangements.

c) English Boat Championship – Poole:

Mr Selby informed the meeting that the Thistle hotel would be the HQ but advised that booking may be cheaper on-line than direct. The Championship would be to the standard format but spaces are limited. He also informed the meeting that the event followed the Poole Species Hunt.

d) European Boat Championship – Maloy, Norway

Mr Bowden informed the meeting that travel would be a challenge and that he was still working with Mr Osborne to try to get the best option. Again, anyone wishing to go should contact him and refer to the website for all up to date information.

e) European Shore Championship – Domburg, Netherlands

Mr Senior informed the meeting that no information was available yet, but previous reports of this venue were excellent for both fishing and organisation. Please follow the website for all latest news.

f) English Species Championship (Flatfish) - Weymouth

Mr Selby advised the meeting that this event is to be held at the Easter weekend and that the target species would be flatfish and rays. It was hoped that the flatfish fishing would be showing some improvement after the storm damage from two years ago but the ray fishing provided a viable option.

g) English Shore Championship - Eastbourne

Mr Senior informed the meeting that the Eastbourne Angling Society would be the HQ. There would not be an HQ hotel as there were none large enough in the town, but this should not be a problem for competitors to make their own arrangements as there were many B&Bs in the town. Fishing would be probably at two venues fishing one hour after low water. Members are advised to obtain the latest information from the website.

The Chairman then gave an update to the meeting regarding the changes and proposals for the Line Class Championships and for future events beyond 2017.

## ***10. Special Business***

Although no Special Business was formally received, the Chairman invited Mr Selby to address the meeting on some issues that needed to be aired.

Mr Selby informed the meeting that he had received requests from some of the skippers after they had been receiving excessive calls from EFSA members asking for information regarding tackle and conditions for forthcoming events. It appears that one angler made 22 calls to one skipper asking for information and so the Section requests that competitors refrain from this practice as it makes us look foolish and our anglers less than capable if they don't know what rod and reel to take to an event. Please be more considerate in the future.

A short informal discussion followed regarding what prizes to award at events as there had been some comments made about the amount of fishing tackle on the prize tables. This was generally agreed to be a tricky subject, especially with so many events to cater for. However, it was agreed that the committee would give this further thought and try to get a more even balance.

**11. Annual General Meeting 2018.** A date and venue was to be confirmed later in the year.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 13:20 hrs.

### **Fish Recorder's Report**

We have had some excellent entries for so early in the year and particularly from the boats. Matthew Lavis's 17lb 9oz Pollack and Ray Barron's 4lb 12oz Tub Gurnard being particularly impressive. Please make sure that you keep your entries coming in and remember that a photo of you and your fish is always appreciated.

The best entries so far are as follows:

#### **BOAT**

Bass	Ray Barron	PM	13lb 3oz
Black Bream			
Cod			
Conger Eel			
Flounder	Alan Painter	PM	3lb 0oz
Plaice			
Pollack	Matthew Lavis	BCC	17lb 9oz
Ray – Blonde	Dave Smith	PM	24lb 8oz
Smoothound			
Whiting	Andy Smith	PM	3lb 2oz
Wrasse – Ballan			
Other by %			
Tub Gurnard	Ray Barron	PM	4lb 12oz

#### **SHORE**

Bass	Jason Lucas	Portland	10lb 8oz
Black Bream			
Cod	Jason Lucas	Portland	3lb 0oz
Conger Eel			
Flounder	Derry Meyers	Portland	3lb 2oz
Plaice	Kyle Bowler	Portland	1lb 5oz
Pollack	Dave McCune	PM	1lb 14oz
Mullet – all by %			
Smoothound			



Whiting	Derry Meyers	Portland	11b 2oz
Wrasse – Ballan	Kyle Bowler	Portland	4lb 1oz
Other by %			
3 Bearded Rockling	Noddy Coan	Portland	11b 8oz

## English Boat Championship Penzance 29/30<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### East vs West!

It seems an awful long time since we originally planned to fish this event - almost as long as the drive to the end of the country and a little further I'm sure we would have dropped off the end. The weather back in May had once again put paid to our well placed plans, but with a light south westerly wind forecast for the practice day, sea conditions were almost perfect.

The practice day showed us just how superb a venue this could be with 26-28 species per boat and many anglers catching species that they had never caught before. Cream of the crop would go to Matt Osborne's 7lb 10oz Couch's Bream. Other notable fish were the near 2lb Red Gurnard, 1lb + Greater Weaver and although none were hooked, massive Bluefin tuna breached several times near one of the boats. I'm sure we've not seen the last of these spectacular *Thunnus Thynnus*. The scenery is just as spectacular as the fishing and anchored up under the Minack Theatre we could almost have seen the play, whilst just around the rocky outcrop you could see Land's end, and look the other way and St Michael's Mount could be seen.

Saturday morning and the wind had changed direction to the predicted and dreaded south easterly and the change in direction added weight to the old saying "when the wind blows east" with reductions in both numbers of fish and species boated. The huss, dogfish and Cuckoo wrasse didn't seem to mind though. Day one over and the boat winners were – Mike Smith (Bite Adventures) Mike Patten (Mermaid 11) Gary Galbraith (Celtic Fox) Vernon Allen (Bluefin) Mark Smith (Capriole) with Vernon taking the days honours.

Day two's boat draw had unwittingly placed 3 boat winners on Celtic Fox (Mark, Mike Smith and Vernon) Gary Galbraith and Mike Patten were both on Bluefin. This draw certainly opened the competition as there were no double boat winners. Day two boat winners were; Richard Russell (Bite Adventures) John Fisell (Mermaid 11) Ray Barron (Celtic Fox) Tony Swain (Bluefin) and Ken Smith (Capriole).

Ray Barron proved his credentials yet again by adding this event to his recent win at the WIBAC, Mike Smith gave him a good run for his money as both were on the same boat and kept neck and neck all day, Mike Patten came in a respectful 3<sup>rd</sup>, and there was only 10% between the top seven anglers, 39 anglers fished.

Ray Barron – Gold pin  
Mike Smith – Silver Pin  
Mike Patten – Bronze

Full results and Photographs on the website

### *Species caught over the 3 days*

Bream	Black, Red & Couches
Rays	Smalleyed & Blonde
Flatfish	Turbot, Plaice, Dab, Megrim, Scaldfish.
Wrasse	Corkwing, Goldsinney, Ballan & Cuckoo.
Round fish	Whiting, Haddock, Cod, Ling, Pout, Poor Cod, Bass, Coalfish, Pollock, John Dory, Lesser weaver, Greater Weaver & 3 bearded rockling.
Baitfish	Pilchard, Herring, Mackerel, Scad & Launce
Gurnard	Red, Grey & Tub
Other	Lesser Spotted Dogfish & Bullhuss, Conger

Please tell me if I've missed any.

Report by Martin Bobbett

### **EFSA England Species (Cod) championships Minehead 26/27<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Those easterly winds seemed to be following us around the coast as this was the second competition in the last few weeks with the wind coming from an easterly direction. The planned practice day was cancelled due to high winds, though why anyone would want to or need to practice catching cod is beyond me - surely you bait up cast out and wait with your fingers crossed.

The recent reports that the fishing had been quite slow dampened the spirit a little, still there's always the dogfish, conger and whiting to keep the lines tight. The charter boats on both sides of the estuary had seen a few cod showing, but most have been targeting the spurdogs in the deeper water, After all, sometimes it's about the sport rather than the table.

Day one proved that the early predictions of hard fishing were spot-on with only 2 out of the 28 anglers actually captured scoring fish. Kevin Preston had two on board Osprey and Steve Batchelor had the same on board Teddy Boy. There were a few calls for the net when competitors hooked in to rays or conger as both seemed to fight similar to cod. Either that or it was wishful thinking from both angler and skipper.

Day two was to be pretty much a re-run of day one, even the weather was identical to Saturday. The only change that I made was to add more worms to the trace to increase the scent trail and hopefully attract one or two of those elusive cod and looking around, many of the other anglers were trying the same tactic. Most traces seemed to have muppets, booby beads, blades or beads, some had all of the attractors mentioned and a few had clean traces.

There was an early report that Richard Russell had boated an 84cm, 15lb 6oz cod, this was taken with a little scepticism on Alykat as Kevin and Steve were on-board. They had 83 and 82cm respectively and we all know there usually a few mind games played. Matt had a dogfish that had taken a small live whiting and Martin had a conger also on a live whiting. Gary Galbraith had a single cod on Fulmar. Richard did indeed have an 84cm Cod on Teddy Boy but the day's top boat was Alykat with Matt Osborne with 48cm, Martin Bobbett with 54cm and Andy Smiths 80cm Cod. None of which were large enough to overtake Richard's early cod.

Andy's cod had 5 Herring, 3 Sprat, a rockling, 3 crab and several shrimp in its stomach. You do not wish to know what Dave did with the shrimp, but I'll tell you anyway - he removed the shell and ate two of them! Needless to say, don't try this at home kids.

The skippers tried their hardest to find the fish for us but the weather conditions, a sea full of sprat and herring and a lack of Cod made it a thankless task. Top Skipper was Mike on Teddy Boy as he's was the boat to return a score sheet on both days. A big thanks to Dave on Alykat, Steve on Fulmar and Steve on Osprey for all the tea and effort that they put in. The Old Ship Aground did us proud with good food, a warm welcome and a supper early breakfast so a big thanks to all the staff for their time and hospitality.

## **Results**

### **Individual**

1 Richard Russell	84cm
2 Kev Preston	83cm
3 Steve Batchelor	82cm
4 Andy Smith	80cm
5 Martin Bobbett	54cm
6 Matt Osbourne	48cm
7 Gary Galbraith	43cm
Rest of field	0cm !

Pairs Winners Gary Galbraith and Matt Osbourne for 91cm

4 man Open Winners John Fisell, Richard Russell, Kim Bowden and Andy Smith

Life Member Winner Richard Russell

## Fun Fish (Flounder) 2017

After a successful AGM on the Saturday, 32 anglers fished the Fun Fish on Sunday 15 January 2017. Five of the anglers elected to fish from the shore with the rest boarding their nominated charter boats. The match was to be fished on a measure and release basis with total length of fish caught deciding the winner. All four charter boats decided to fish the Holes Bay area of the harbour which meant waiting for the bridge to be raised. So for the first quarter of an hour it was drift fishing near the bridge but with no success.

Three of the boats anchored up along the moorings on the west side of the bay with one fishing near the RNLI HQ and *serious* fishing started. The forecast rain didn't really materialise with just a light shower that had cleared by lunchtime. The fishing was slow. From our boat Boney M we watched enviously as first Matt Osbourne and then Martin Bobbett landed flounders from Strongbow whilst there was no interest in our baits. It wasn't until nearly mid-day as the tide turned that the first flounder was caught on our boat, a fish of 41cm by Paul Hart. Meanwhile more flounders were landed on Strongbow and on Our Gemma. Throughout the rest of the afternoon a few more flounders were caught, a 48cm fish for me skilfully brought aboard by Billy Cann after we both had bites and our lines were together. Bill then caught one of 46cm soon after. Paul Hart had a cracking bite and a good fight ensued which turned out to be a fine 5lb bass. During the afternoon Tony Sherwood also had a 48cm fish and Rolf Marschalek one of 36cm so final total for Boney M was 5 flounder.

Back at the presentation it was Andy Smith on Strongbow that took the honours with four flounders for 151cm. Alan Painter on Our Gemma was second with three fish for 130cm and Chairman Neil Bryant third with three fish for 110cm. Top shore angler was Luke Allen with two fish for 88cm with Reg Clough's two fish making 79cm for second spot and Allan Jones had one fish of 45cm. Top boat was Strongbow with twelve flounders. Longest fish was 49cm caught by Mike Smith with Tony Sherwood and Barrie Senior joint second longest with 48cm fish.

A total of 39 flounders were caught with 5 of these coming from the shore.

Full results and photographs on our website.

At the last meeting of the EFSA England Committee, discussions took place that I want to make you aware of. A decision was taken that, due to the cost of circulating the EFSA Yearbook to all, it will now be made available at all our events through the year for you to pick up a copy. Alternatively, if you contact Ray Ashby he will let you know the cost of posting you a Yearbook. The future of the Yearbook is under discussion at EFSA HQ meetings as to whether it should become an online publication only.

In a similar vein, we are looking at our Newsletter and whether we should be publishing so many when it can be viewed online.

Life Members. While it is realised that this should have meant free membership for life, it is considered that many have had their money's worth by now! One consideration for the future is the possibility of a Life Membership levy to go towards the cost servicing each Life Member.

All of the above is for your information and your Committee welcome any constructive comment on any of the subjects mentioned.

### **Ken Froud**

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you of the tragic death of Ken Froud on February 24<sup>th</sup>. He was 61 years old.

Although Ken had not been active with the Section in recent years, he was ever-present at EFSA England events from the late 1970's through to the beginning of this century. He will be remembered for his ardent support to the EFSA England Committee as Boat Festival Officer and other Committee positions from the early 1980's through to 2000. He was also a member of the European Boat Organising Committees for the Championships held in 1988 (Plymouth), 1994 (Plymouth) and 2000 (Weymouth).

Our condolences go to his wife Tracy and to his family.

Funeral details are not yet available but those wishing to attend should contact either Ray Ashby or Neil Bryant

## **Forthcoming Event Details and information**

### ***English Boat Championship 2017***

We will be back in Poole again over the weekend of June 3rd & 4th using the Thistle Hotel as our HQ. On Friday the 2nd the 4 man Poole Species Hunt takes place giving you the chance to make it a long weekend of fishing.

### ***English Species – Weymouth 2017***

Our Species event will be targeting Turbot, Brill and Plaice and our HQ will be the Weymouth Angling Society Clubhouse. There are many hotels and B&Bs that you can book for this event. This event will take place over the weekend of the 15th & 16th April.. Entries will close 11<sup>th</sup> March and we are currently almost up to the current maximum available places. Any late entries may have to go on a reserve list until we get sufficient entries to warrant booking another boat.

### ***European Boat – Norway Maloy, Norway, 28th July to 6th August.***

This will be a 4 day Boat Championship fishing on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with Wednesday off, although this is weather dependant and may be rearranged to suit the weather. Fishing can be in depths of up to 250 meters, but many fish will be found mid-water. EFSA Norway suggests using a good reel (Shimano or Diawa) with depth meter and no level wind. Weights required will be in the region of 300 to 500 grams. Life jackets must be supplied by the angler and worn at all times, although when I asked I was told a floatation jacket was acceptable, but I will get written confirmation of this. I will not go into any more detail here as there is a lot of information in the brochure on the fish to expect and on options to get there and where to stay. All this and the entry form is on our web site.

Many of us are are booked to fly out out on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> or Friday 28<sup>th</sup> BA 0955 depart LHR direct to Bergen, BA0760. These flights allow for a couple of hours to get the ferry from Bergen to Maloy. Only 1 ferry runs at weekends so we are looking to come back on the Monday ferry at 0720hrs and flight BA0759 back. Hotel Best Western is now fully booked so you will need to book another hotel and there are several close by including Torget. Please quote EFSA 2017 as all rooms are reserved for the event.

## ***European Species – Langeland, Denmark (EFSA Germany) Oct 30th to Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>***

This is for flatfish which many of us have fished for there before so hopefully in 2017 we will do a bit better. This will also be the Line Class event for 2017 if using the Ande line available which will be 20 pound breaking strain. Getting there last time I drove and from Dunkirk, almost 700 miles, which took around 10 hours I think as apart from few miles either end it is continuous motorway. Again, a lot of information in the brochure on our website so please have a good read of that and if there is anything you are not sure of then contact me. There is the HQ hotel though some of us are booked in cabins close by Spodsbjerg where the boats leave from, their website <https://secure.novasol.com> look for Langeland then Spodsbjerg, cabins from 2 to 4 bedrooms. There are a few of us looking to drive and will offer space in car for others so once entries are in I can circulate who is going and who is looking to drive to assist in people getting there.

Closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> of March for English entries so get entries to me by then or very soon after.

## **European Shore, Domburg, 27<sup>th</sup> November to 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Brochure for this event is now on the website.

Although closing date is not till 15<sup>th</sup> August Section Netherlands require a 75 Euro deposit by 23<sup>rd</sup> April for accommodation. So if going to attend let me have the 75 Euro or full payment by 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Be useful if you let me know if thinking of attending.

## **EFSA England Shore Championships 2017 – Eastbourne**

EFSA England Shore Championships 2017 will be fished out of Eastbourne with two venues being chosen nearer the time from several alternatives that are available. This catch and release competition will be bait supplied, wraps of lug, a small amount of rag and possibly some fish bait. Fishing is expected to be from approximately 1½ to 2 hours after low water and over high tide. Species that could be caught include, flounder, dab, plaice, eel, pout, dogfish, rockling and possibly bass.

The cost will be the same as last year at £90 for the two days including bait. There will be separate pools for longest round fish and longest flat fish. Booking in will be at Eastbourne Angling Association on the evening of Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. There is plenty of accommodation available in Eastbourne.

**Closing date for entries 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017.** Entry forms can be downloaded from the EFSA England website <http://www.efsa-england.com/downloads/2017-Shore-entry-form.pdf>

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