



## March 2021 Newsletter

### New Members

We have been unable to elect new members whilst under lockdown. However, currently we have 14 applications in hand, listing 18 adults with 11 cadets awaiting entrance to the membership from the 29<sup>th</sup> >

### February

Weatherwise it was a surprising month with local boat anglers, paddleboarders and an extremely hardy open water swimmer making the most of some stunning days as the month progressed.

### Step 1 Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March, A Key Date for the Club

It is safer for people to meet outdoors rather than indoors. From 29 March, outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will also be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside.

Outdoor sports facilities will also be allowed to reopen.

The 'stay at home' rule will end but many restrictions will remain in place. People should minimise the number of journeys they make where possible, avoiding travel at the busiest times and routes.

A year on and through some very dark times for many, there is light at the end of the tunnel. Unlike lockdown 1 of last year timing is excellent and its fingers crossed that the data will support all planned easings.



### Looking Forward

To catching up, meeting with members, and making the most of every opportunity to get afloat over the forthcoming season.

Paul Collins  
Commodore

Subscription Renewal falls due on 1 April



Members renewing within the month of April will have a credit applied towards their 2021/22 subscription based on 25% of the membership type they paid for 2020/21.

On renewing you may wish to acknowledge the role the RNLI plays in keeping members safe and choose to pay the full subscription shown in black below. If so, the club will ensure your credit, shown in red, is donated to the RNLI on your behalf.

Alternatively, you may retain your credit and pay the lesser subscription balance shown in green.

Reduced Rate £70 - ~~£17.50~~ = £52.50  
Single user £100 - ~~£25.00~~ = £75.00  
Joint Family £145 - ~~£36.25~~ = £108.75

Craft Storage fees remain unchanged at £50

Please remember the Reduced Rate subscription is reserved for crew/social members and not craft owners.

April is a particularly busy time for our volunteers and we would your appreciate timely renewal by bank transfer if possible.

**Blackpool Light Craft Club**  
**Sort Code 30 90 89**  
**Account Number 40168768**  
**Add Your Name as a Reference**

### Family Membership

The Club offers a family membership at a very reasonable increase (£45) in subscription cost. Individual members wishing to extend their membership to include their partner and or their children under 18 may do so without incurring any additional entrance fees.



## **A New Ford 6710 But Its Not Yet in Service**

Currently without a winch, its Council beach permit and uninsured, the Ford must not be used until you are familiarised and authorised.

Volunteers will roll out familiarisation in due course. With the Massey Ferguson also ready in the wings, a great many users to familiarise and ongoing restrictions to be observed, we have quite a task before us. It's likely that we will follow the pattern of members renewal when inviting users for familiarisation.



An app for both Android and Apple iOS smartphones that allows you to track your journey in UK territorial waters on your phone.

SafeTrx app provides all recreational boat users, particularly dinghy cruisers, PWC users, RIB users, canoers, kayakers, wind and kite surfers and smaller boat users with an easily accessible and simple to use means that can inform HM Coastguard of their voyage plans and dynamic location in the event of distress.

This app is freely available to anyone who wants to be safer afloat. IT IS FREE TO DOWNLOAD AND THERE IS NO CHARGE TO USE IT

For more information follow the quick link on the club's website.

### Time to Check, Repack or Replace Your Wheel Bearings

A failed bearing is a guaranteed spoiler. Sand and saltwater turn hub grease into sludge and whilst your trailer stands unused, its bearings, their shells and the stub axles rust. The damage done the bearing will fail and could leave you stranded by the roadside.

A couple of hours spent on preventative maintenance now would be well spent. There is plenty of advice available on the web if you are unsure how to go about it. Or for about £55 a pair you can buy new unbraked hubs complete with bearings.

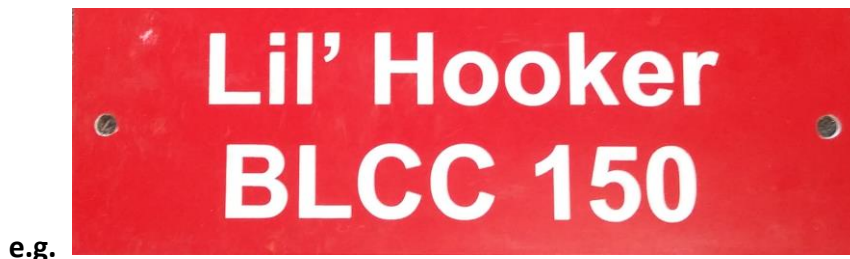


### A Couple of Reminders.

All trailed hard craft launched must display their club registration number.

e.g. **BLCC 123**

All trailers must display the registration number and craft name or the surname of the owner.



e.g.

A replacement pair of club registration numbers may be ordered via Alan 07808 127466. Trailers may be marked simply by painting or stencilling the winch post. Engraved plastic ID's, similar to that above are available to order for very little money on Ebay.

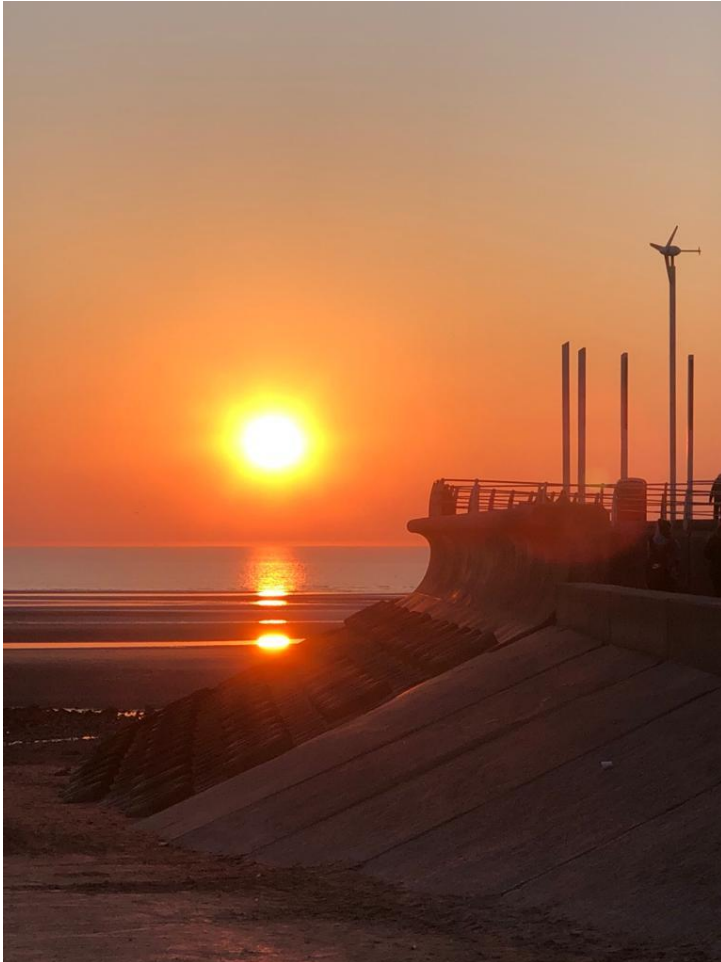


### For Sale?

Thinking of upgrading your craft or perhaps the time has come for a change of direction?

There may be a club member or perhaps a member of the public who has been in contact and is on the lookout for a ski or boat just like yours, so if you are selling, we would be happy to make it known.

### Sunset Over the Starr Gate Slipway



One of several stunning shots captured by member Gary Lovatt within the last month.

### The Clubhouse

Must continue to remain closed to all but authorised members until such time as restrictions are lifted.

Members will be notified of any change and in due course will be invited to assist in deep cleaning the facilities.

### Return of Compound, Clubhouse and Tractor Keys



If you are not proposing to renew your membership and were issued keys please advise Alan 07808 127466, or

[blccmembers@gmail.com](mailto:blccmembers@gmail.com)

Arrangements can then be made for secure return.

Thank you.

### A Boat Angler's Obituary

Doreen's husband Fred died suddenly one day. Taking care of the funeral arrangements with the undertaker she was asked how she wanted Fred's obituary to read. "How much does an obituary cost?" she asked. A pound per word the undertaker replied. "In that case I want it to simply read – FRED IS DEAD."

The undertaker, an old fishing buddy of Fred was horrified and offered to stand the cost of half of the obituary out of his own pocket. Doreen's face lit up and she replied, "Great, then I want it to read – FRED IS DEAD, BOAT FOR SALE."