

Golant BOATWATCH.

Report to the Parish Council, May 2024.

I am pleased to bring you this year's annual BOATWATCH report.

After a number of years with no marine crime in Golant, we have unfortunately had two crimes reported to Boatwatch in the last year. One was an outboard engine stolen from Pill and the other theft of equipment from a boat at the Pill Green area. This encouraged us to extend the CCTV coverage, as described below.

Our membership is maintaining at over 80, with new members joining each year.

Key activities that in the last year have been:

1. Extension of CCTV Coverage

The engine theft from a boat in the Pill encouraged us to consider extending the CCTV coverage. Simon Reay of Island House very kindly offered locations to site the cameras, which are now operational. These provide coverage of the Bridge and Road areas of the Pill.

2. River Webcam

The plan to provide a river webcam was included in last year's report. At that time, the Parish council had already made a grant towards this. The original intention was to fix the camera at Oakenhurst, but it proved impossible to identify a suitable location on the building where access was possible for fitting and maintenance. After discussion, the Rowing Club agreed to host the installation, and the camera is now up and running, with access from the Golant.net website.

3. Boatwatch Events

We continue our programme of Spring and Autumn meetings, with two river patrol flotillas during the year.

Our Spring Get-together has not been firmly established as a barbecue for members. Although we hold this at the end of March, we have not had to contend with inappropriate weather (yet...) and the two events we have held in this format have both been well attended. Our AGM continues in its traditional format in the Village Hall. This coming November our speaker will be from Cornwall Air Ambulance.

In 2023 we again held two very successful flotillas, both blessed with excellent weather. The first was for the Coronation, where the rains of the day cleared for a splendid turnout of decorated vessels. The second flotilla on a glorious August evening where we rafted up at Penquite Quay.

4. Virtual Patrols, Facebook and e-mail communications

The Boatwatch Facebook site continues to publicise our activities, with frequent postings about river related issues. Members also receive e-mail updates on Boatwatch activities and bulletins on marine related issues.

We have continued the winter video patrols to let boat owners not able to get to the river see the condition of their boats.

5. Finance

We have managed to maintain adequate funds in our accounts to carry out our activities without an increase to subscriptions at this time. We have a margin for issues such as the repair of the CCTV and webcam equipment, if required.

6. Future Activities

We will continue to review other activities/projects that might be beneficial to members, and liaise with Golant Quay Users and the Port User Group on areas of mutual interest.

That completes the report. Does anyone have any questions?