

SID PENDER

David Cains

Sadly, well-known local angler and past Cornishman correspondent Sid Pender has past away after a long illness.

Sid came from a long-established Cornish fishing family and was brought up in Mousehole where his first experience of sea angling was with a hand line from the end of the local pier.

After studying at college and teaching in the Oxford area for four years he went to the Isles of Scilly where his four year stay gave him an intimate knowledge of shore fishing from St Mary's and the inshore waters between the islands.

On his return to the mainland he became an active member of the Mounts Bay Angling Society and has since held many posts, including President, Chairman, Fish Recorder and Press Officer. Sid was made a Vice President and Life Member in recognition of all his work for the club. As Press Officer he was, for many years writing a weekly column as "Blackjack" the Angling Correspondent for the Cornishman Newspaper and was a tough act to follow for the current writer. He had also been a regular contributor to the "Sea Angling Monthly" and the "Angler's Mail". Sid also held many posts over the years for the Cornish Division of the National Federation of Sea Anglers and the Kernow Specimen Fish Group.

He is the holder of many club and County records, primarily for inshore species taken from his own dinghies and many of the junior members of the club have benefited from his experience over many years.

Sid until retirement was a local primary school teacher and head teacher and he had boats at Sennen and Mousehole. He still holds half a dozen club boat records, including bogue, scad and triggerfish. Until recently Sid attended every committee meeting, always consuming half a shandy and a packet of crisps. Sid was also author of two books, "Boat Fishing in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly" and "Angling in West Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly". He was never seen without his woolly hat even in summer!

Sid had honoured the job of informing a long list of his friends of his death to the writer and it was a pleasure for him to hear so many wonderful memories of Sid's early years when making telephone calls to many on the list. One in particular was a childhood friend of Sid's, Dave Matthews now living up the line. Dave had grown up with Sid on the Mount during the war years when Sid lived with his Aunt. Dave remembers fishing in rock pools with cotton and bent pins before graduating to rod fishing from the quay. Dave remembers clearing off home when the fish were not biting but Sid stayed out there, a lone figure in the wind and the weather.

Clearly always the dedicated sea angler.

Sid will be remembered and missed by so many anglers young and old for many, many years to come.

Sid's funeral is being held at St Clement's Methodist Church, Mousehole, Monday 8th January at 3pm.

