

Golant BOATWATCH.

Report to the Parish Council, May 2025.

There has been no reported marine crime in Golant in the last year.

Our membership continues to grow and is now over 90.

Key activities that in the last year have been:

1. Cameras

The CCTV Coverage remains in place and again has been able to provide re-assurance by identifying as valid some activities on the river that were suspected as being suspicious. We were also able to provide the Harbourmaster with a video of the vessel collision with the Yellow Marker at the SWW outfall pipe. This collision was considered by the Harbourmaster to be accidental, rather than reckless.

2. River Webcam

The river webcam is proving to be very well used and appreciated by river users. There have been two occasions where the camera went down, and on both occasions Boatwatch was notified by users within an hour of the problem arising.

3. Rescues

Yet again, one of our members has come to the aid of a person in difficulties in the waters. The same member also responded to a PANPAN call, providing a tow into Fowey for a yacht with failed engine.

4. Boatwatch Events

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

We had another very successful 2025 Spring Get-together barbecue for members. We moved the date to the beginning of June and were rewarded with fine weather. Our AGM continues in its traditional format in the Village Hall. In 2024 we had a presentation on behalf of the Air Ambulance, and villagers donated generously to the cause. As a result of the donations, Boatwatch is now a Heli2Hero, and we will have our name in the donor list painted on the second helicopter. This coming November our speaker is planned to be from the RNLI.

We again held two flotillas, in June and August. The weather was rather grey for both, but stalwart members turned out in force to fly the flag for Boatwatch and celebrate the joys of the Fowey river.

5. Virtual Patrols, Facebook and e-mail communications

The Boatwatch Facebook site continues to attract views from significant numbers of people, with between 500 and 1000 views being the norm for our posts. Members also receive e-mail updates on Boatwatch activities and important marine related issues.

Over the winter our members identified six vessels that were sinking. Information on these was posted on Facebook resulting in the owners being able to respond. Three drifting vessels were also identified and reported to Fowey Harbour, who responded quickly to retrieve them.

We have continued the winter video patrols that started during COVID to let boat owners monitor the condition of their boats.

6. Finance

We have again maintained adequate funds in our accounts to carry out our activities without increasing our subscription.

7. Future Activities

We continue to review potential activities/projects that might benefit 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?