

DRUNKEN SAILOR FINED BY MAGISTRATES

Padstow Harbour Commissioners recently followed up safety concerns about boat users sailing under the influence of alcohol by prosecuting local man, Ian Thompson, under their Bye-laws for an offence of navigating a vessel while incapable through drink. Following an investigation by the Harbour Master and P.C. Del Allerton-Baldwin, Thompson pleaded guilty at Truro Magistrates Court to the Bye-law offence on 17th January.

The Court was told that Mr Thompson's Dart Catamaran was observed stuck on a sandbank mid river and when approached, Thompson and his companion were noted as being obviously drunk. In a letter prepared setting out his mitigation, Thompson apologised for his actions.

Fining Thompson £650 and ordering him to pay £500 towards the prosecution costs, the Magistrates said they "took a dim view" of his conduct.