



Thank you for reading the Littlehampton Harbour Newsletter!

We hope that you will find the following information of interest.

END OF SEASON REVIEW

Many thanks to all of you who paid your Harbour Dues without a reminder.

It really helps us to keep costs down if we can avoid the extra administration of chasing outstanding dues. More than 100 boat owners paid online which is doubly helpful as this significantly reduces office time on administration.

PLEASE DISPLAY YOUR PLAQUE

It's important that everyone pays their Dues so that the costs of maintaining the harbour are shared out fairly. We checked plaque display during September and there are plenty of vessels that still need to display their plaques. If **YOU** display your plaque then it makes it much easier for **US** to identify vessels that should pay their dues.

The Harbour Board recently agreed that the payment of Harbour Dues should be scheduled to run from 1 April and coincide with the financial year. In order to introduce this, we will be invoicing the 2012/13 Harbour Dues for a nine month period i.e. from 1 July 2012 to 31 March 2013. The Harbour Due will be adjusted to reflect this shorter period. We think that paying Harbour Dues at the beginning of the summer season makes much better sense and we hope you agree.

WHAT DO I GET FOR MY DUES?

Harbour Dues contribute to the cost of managing the harbour in the interests of conservancy and safe navigation. Over the past year we have improved the Fisherman's Quay light and most recently the terminal East Beacon has been replaced with a new structure that has a stronger light, with a range of 6 nautical miles, matching the range of the West Beacon.



PREPARED FOR OIL POLLUTION

The LHB has statutory responsibilities to be prepared to manage oil pollution. We carried out an oil spill exercise with the Environment Agency in June which involved deployment of oil spill booms across the River Arun.



Only a week after the exercise we had to deal with engine oil that had been poured down a drain and entered the River Arun. Fortunately the source of the pollution was stopped fairly quickly but this relatively minor event showed us how a little oil goes a very long way over the water's surface.

CHART UPDATES

If you have purchased Admiralty charts recently you may have noticed a number of new charted features in the harbour including submarine pipelines laid across the channel in an area within the river mouth and submarine cables (high-voltage electricity and



communications) close south-east of the retracting footbridge. Although these features have been present for many years, they were not charted and it's important that you should be aware that anchoring and trawling are prohibited at both locations, likewise dredging and/or any similar activity likely to result in disturbance to the river bed.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY

Results of the 30 September survey can be viewed at the Littlehampton Harbour Office on request. Depths throughout the fairway remain substantially unchanged. The Shingle Bank on the western side of the Narrows has reduced in height, but has extended southwards. The least depth over the Bar, (the controlling-depth for the harbour) is now 0.9m, i.e. 0.9m above chart-datum.

LOCAL NOTICES TO MARINERS

Local Notices contain important information for mariners and can be viewed on the harbour website at www.littlehampton.org.uk/notices If you would like to join the email list that receives Local Notices then please email your request to harbour@littlehampton.org.uk

COMMERCIAL SHIPPING

The number of commercial shipping movements has remained steady at about 2 or 3 arrivals per month. Once the ship is committed to its entry or exit, it is vital that all other vessels keep clear. We regularly receive requests for shipping information so we will add this information to the website as well as continuing to provide updates via social networking. Movements can change at very short notice so when afloat, listen to your VHF radio, Channel 71.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Stay in contact with us and follow the day-to-day workings of the Harbour via our social networking pages. You can receive safety information, events information and shipping movements by simply adding us to your page.



HARBOUR SAFETY GROUP

The Harbour Safety Group meets twice each year with businesses, clubs and other organizations represented. At the last meeting, Sussex Police noted that the theft of outboard engines is a particular problem across the south coast and that any suspicious behavior should be reported by calling Sussex police on 0845 60 70 999. If you have any ideas or questions for the next meeting on 6 March, please email harbour@littlehampton.org.uk

SEA SAFETY CHECKS

If you are relatively new to the water (or an old-hand) we strongly recommend that you contact the RNLI Sea Safety Team for a free safety check. A member of the team will visit you on your boat and provide friendly advice. They will also help you check your lifejackets. Contact Gary Mills for further information by emailing seasafety@littlehamptonlifeboat.co.uk

EAST BANK FLOOD DEFENCES - LOOK OUT FOR CONSULTATION

Arun District Council has commissioned LDA Design to develop ideas for the river frontage at Pier Road and Arun Parade to be delivered as enhancements to the proposed East Bank flood defence scheme. Have your say on the designs which will be available for public consultation in November 2011.

WATERFRONT FESTIVAL 2012

An enthusiastic group of local people keen to promote the harbour are planning for a waterfront festival on 23 and 24 June 2012. If you are able to volunteer some time, or have any ideas for the weekend, please contact Anne or Lee at the Harbour Office.

DID YOU KNOW....

That the Littlehampton Harbour Board is set up under its own Act of Parliament and that the Board meets in public eight times each year? Members of the public are welcome at the meetings and can ask questions. Agendas and minutes of the meetings are posted on the LHB website.