

Annual Newsletter from the Harbour Master Truro and Penryn 2015

Email addresses

Many of you will be using email regularly at work and at home. Please can you supply a preferred email address to the Administration staff at Truro to enable us to better communicate with you all?

There are several options to provide us with your email address.

- a. Ring the office with your mooring or account number and email address.
- b. email the above details to: harbouroffice@cornwall.gov.uk
- c. or include your email address when you return your annual registration form.

Personnel

My operational team are working hard across the Maritime Section to support the staff in other Cornwall Council ports as well maintaining our own assets and conducting our own duties.

In return we have been assisted by maritime staff from other ports with projects in Truro. These projects include repointing the following stone faced quays: Garras Wharf, Town Quay and Worths Quay.

Shipping

A number of vessels have been laid up this year. The reefer ships Summer Flower and Summer Meadow were laid up for about 3 months this summer. These vessels now ply their trade from South American ports carrying fruit to North America and Europe. The Southern Hemisphere fruit harvest season is approaching and the vessels have recently been reactivated so have left the Port.

An unusual vessel laid up in mid-November, mv Deep Investigator. The vessel is an anchor handling tug supply vessel fitted with a drilling rig. It is a very capable vessel and can dynamically position itself by using the thrusters; the drilling rig is then working without anchors or moorings. The vessel has many potential uses including, geotechnical investigations, inspections, pilot holes, pile installations, excavation work and construction support.

I have had interest from other offshore sector companies with the majority of the fleet based in the North Sea now lying idle due to the low crude oil price. Most of these vessels have however found appropriate lay up berths in North Sea ports closer to potential work when the crude oil prices increase.

Scrap metal has been our main cargo handled over the last year, approximately 6000 tonnes of scrap metal and baled cars have been exported.

Renewable Energy

The Port of Truro and Penryn continue to be members of the MOR Group, MOR being short for Marine Offshore Renewables hosted at the Cornwall Marine Network. The MOR group is a collection of supply chain companies seeking to collaborate for mutual benefit in securing business for local companies in this sector.

Special Area of Conservation SAC

Unfortunately due to the resignation of the Chairman and restructuring of the Environment Service we did not meet as the Management Forum for the first 6 months of 2015. To maintain the integrity of the Management Forum I volunteered to chair the group and will continue by agreement with the group to chair the meetings for 2016.

This year we have continued to support Lisa Rennocks at Cornwall Wildlife Trust with her project on marine alien invasive species. We have helped with the collection of samples from pontoons and other marine sites in the estuary. Sadly the funding for Lisa's work has finished and she has now left Cornwall Wildlife Trust. I wish Lisa well for the future and thank her for all her work.

There are significant challenges for the SAC Management Forum in 2016 not least: ongoing water quality issues, alien invasive species and fisheries issues.

Newham BID

I attend the Newham BID management committee meetings hosted by various businesses in Newham. Details of the BID can be found by using the link to the website <http://www.newhambid.com>

Some of the success stories for the BID this year include completion of phase one of the CCTV project and the new signage project for Newham is close to fruition.

Kernow Tree Surgery continues to maintain the green areas around Newham to improve the public realm for the benefit of all the businesses there.

Events

The ports have helped facilitate a number of festivals and events throughout the year including many small craft regattas and rallies.

In Penryn the town council arranged a quayside service, the service was held at Exchequer Quay Penryn and a collection was made in aid of the RNLI.

Various sailing and rowing regattas have taken place this summer. Also two charity swimming events have taken place in front of Trelissick House one of which raised money for Cornwall Hospice Care.

Water Safety

Local Community Safety volunteers are assisting the RNLI with 'Respect the Water' campaign which was launched in 2015.

Respect the Water is the RNLI campaign that puts drowning prevention at the heart of everything it does. The aim is to halve coastal fatalities by 2024.

For more information follow the link to: <http://rnli.org/safety/respect-the-water/Pages/respect-the-water-old.aspx>

We hope to run a safety event with the RNLI Community Safety volunteers next summer 2016.

I hope you all enjoyed a Happy Christmas and I wish you all a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

Mark Killingback
Harbour Master Truro and Penryn