



## St Aubin's Boat Owners' Association

### Newsletter April 2014

I was waiting to see if the harbour mouth sand bank was being removed before sending out this Newsletter – I am delighted to report that yesterday this was mostly completed. There is still quite an amount which could have been removed at the end steps and slip which will make coming alongside in a dinghy difficult when the water level is low! The promised walking survey for muddy areas however, has not taken place.

Since the January newsletter we have had a roller coaster of weather with much damage caused by the storms on 5<sup>th</sup> February and with southerly winds being so frequent, but no coastal areas were spared. We were so fortunate that the wave protection put up at The Shack did the job so well. Unfortunately some of the barques at the end of the south pier were destroyed. Another highlight was the extremely high tide on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The tide was so high that there were “geysers” blowing up between the granite pavings at the end of the south quay and the Bulwarks road was awash in places, but luckily the weather was quite calm!

The weather now must be turning everyone's minds into thinking about, “being out there”. Let's hope we have an excellent season this year!

Welcome to all our recent new members. We now have over 150 members. Thanks must go again to Mark Le Riche who continues promoting SABOA and regularly recruits from anyone who dares venture down the quays! If you know boat owners who are not members, please try to persuade them to join us. Our aim is to improve things for all boat owners and harbour users and we put a fair amount of effort into improving things for everyone. Dan Downey has updated our fantastic website, [www.saboa.webs.com](http://www.saboa.webs.com) and now it is even more fantastic! Try making this your first “port of call” when checking the weather. There is a range of relevant and useful links. One of the latest additions has been a set of up to date Passage Plans made freely available by one of our members. Also there is an excellent, “For Sale,” section and now a monthly puzzle of coastal photos. We also have the Facebook Page ..... [www.facebook.com/StAubinsBoatOwnersAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/StAubinsBoatOwnersAssociation)  
If you have any concerns at all regarding harbour matters please make them known to a member of the committee. Committee member names are on the website. We usually meet monthly and do our best to solve problems.

### **Sub Committees**

We have three sub-committees:-

Crane Issues: Bob Thompson, Mick Ryall, Tony Blyth & Mark Le Riche.

Portacabin Issues: Dave Le Mottee & Nick Clarke

Marine Jumble Sale: Bob Thompson, Glen & Peter Bisson

### **Membership**

If you have not yet renewed your membership, this is now well overdue. Single Membership is still £10 and Joint Membership is £15. You can pay this directly to Jim Baxter, Membership Secretary, or into the SABOA bank account –Nat West Bank, P.O. Box11, JE4 8NH Account Number 26561328, Sort Code 60-12-03. You can also give this to a committee member to be passed on to Jim.

### **Marine Jumble Sale**

Our biggest annual event is the Marine Jumble Sale, on the morning of Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, outside the Parish Hall which is just four weeks away. If you have boating items you no longer use please consider donating these – the RNLI & Air Search have benefitted from this previously. If you wish to run your own stall you are also welcome to do that on payment of a small fee. If you have items to be collected please contact Bob Thompson, Vice President, on 481494 or 07797886431. If you have a key for “The Shack” you can leave items there. We have had many tools donated for the sale by Life Member, Peter King. More helpers will be needed nearer the time.

### **Other events**

Over the winter we have had regular Pub Social events. We had a couple of really successful film evenings at the OCH and a well attended talk on engines by member Dr Robert Kisch last November. There will be one more Social evening on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> which Nick Clarke, Social Secretary will contact you about. We will be having other events over the summer including barbecues.

### **The Shack**

This was aptly named at the AGM and Myra Shacklady was delighted to have something in Jersey named after her! The Shack has been a fantastic acquisition which was mainly due to Myra. Now The Shack has even more facilities! It has been great to see members doing maintenance jobs there recently. It is also a great meeting place for members. The welly boots have been very welcome a few times! The chain/bolt cutter has also been used – the committee know the code for unlocking this from the wall if you need it. It has been great to see the outboard flushing facility used also. There is now a grindstone for use with a mounting outside the west door, so that the mess stays outside! There is also a B&D Workmate which you can use outside. There are three 25 metre electric leads which will need to be signed out. Mickey Ryall has just purchased a lovely new barbecue and cooking tools for us. We are hoping to install a flag pole this season to fly our burgee. Keys are available at a cost of £3 and the code remains unchanged as \*\*\*\*\*. We were so lucky to have very little damage during the winter storms and thanks must go to Bob Thompson and Dave Le Mottee, and of course any others who helped, for installing the “wave breaker” sea defence which did the job excellently. One unpleasant thing has been

the discovery of syringes outside the main door and the police have removed these having been made aware of the problem.

### **Quay Clearance by 1<sup>st</sup> May**

Boat owners have customarily been asked to remove all boats, trailers and gear by 1<sup>st</sup> May each year. Boats should be back in the water by then. The area by the crane is available at all times for essential work. In the past few years there have been many craft and trailers on the south pier well after that date and some for all the summer, which is not the case at other harbours during the season. There is no objection to boats being on the quay when essential work is being actively carried out but some have continued to take advantage of the south quay for boats, trailers and other gear. The Harbours Dept have made provision for trailers to be left at La Collette during the season so it is annoying to find any cluttering up the south quay. This season we shall endeavour to improve the situation again and will not tolerate the cluttering up of the south quay. The north quay unfortunately became a paid parking area several years ago and has to be cleared also for 1<sup>st</sup> May. If you wish to purchase a car parking permit from Harbours for the north quay you will need to contact the MLS at St Helier Marina.

### **Dinghy pontoons.**

Do check your dinghies and keep them baled out regularly. You may have read about the Harbours dinghy check at St Helier. The same will be happening soon at St Aubin. Dinghies will need to be clearly labelled with parent boat name, have painters of 3 metres length and be in serviceable condition. Offending boats will be removed, as will any boats left on top of the pontoon or lashed to railings. The maximum size for a dinghy is 10 feet except for the pontoon near the harbour mouth which has a maximum of 12 feet. The dinghy racks will also be inspected and boats in poor condition will be removed. Spaces may not be reserved by leaving a chain across for months! There is always a demand for these spaces. Jersey Harbours Notice to Mariners No 7 “Dinghies and Tenders” of 2014 is worth reading.

### **St Aubin’s Fort Clearance.**

TTS / Harbours are intending to remove all gear left on the area outside the Fort, which does not belong to the Youth Service. Only between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> April are other craft are permitted there for winter storage.

### **Belcroute deadman moorings**

A few weeks ago an alert was sent out following a members observation, stating that over the winter much of sand has been redistributed, resulting in some moorings now being exposed and on the surface rather than dug in. It would be worth checking on a low spring tide if you do have a mooring there.

### **Windscreen discs.**

In an effort to keep the south quay free for boat owners to park we have issued windscreen discs showing boat names. There are many still awaiting collection in The Shack.

### **The crane.**

We understand that the height of the crane is to be increased by the addition of a 1.7 metre ring in the pedestal in mid May. The slewing has also been improved by the installation of a "soft start and creep mode" three weeks ago. There was a problem with water getting in to the electrics and a waterproofing ring was fitted over the gap several weeks ago to prevent reoccurrence. When operating a crane, the user must now be qualified by having the G4S certificate and the operator will also need the help of a qualified Banksman. Harbours are making this course available for SABOA members who would like to have that qualification also. So hang on to your Certificates those who took the Crane Operators Course last July - you will also need to show the certificate to use the South Pier hand crane which is to be kept padlocked! Conditions for using cranes can be read amongst the Ports of Jersey Notices.

### **Electric Cables**

If you are one of the boat owners given a seven day notice on your electric cables it would be a good idea for you to read the Jersey Harbours "Permanent Notice to Mariners No 1 – Electricity Cables and Supply" which applies to all harbours and boat parks.

### **Modification of south groyne.**

The idea of building a groyne to the north has been proposed again as an experiment to see if it prevents the build up of the bank in the harbour mouth. It is proposed to move boulders from the south groyne to a north pier position beyond the fuel berth. This ought to happen now of course, since the bank has been removed.

### **Falmouth 2014 Tall Ships Regatta 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014**

A very small number of SABOA members will be going along to this in private cars via Condor. Accommodation is a University Hall of residence nearby. This needs to be confirmed soon so if you are wishing to go along please make contact with Gill Cotter, Hon. Treasurer.

### **Working Berths**

We are extremely disappointed that the working berths promised for the beginning of this season and discussed over the last few years have not materialised. Several members have asked about using these already. We shall continue to push for this provision as soon as possible.

### **Use of Blocks & Drying Pads**

As a St Aubin boat owner there is no charge for using these but you do need to book these through the MLS. The Old Blocks by the Parish Hall have a drying height of 29 feet and the New Blocks in the corner have a drying height of 27 feet. The drying pads of course are a couple of feet less. If you do ring up to book please give the correct number and nomenclature shown next to these to prevent any confusion.

**Merchandise.**

We have an attractive burgee for sale at £12.50 (£1 goes to RNLI) We have a limited stock of Polo shirts at £12 which are very good quality. If we do not have your size / colour, Polo shirts may be ordered at £16.75 each, bearing our logo and your boat name. Woolly hats and baseball caps with the SABOA logo may also be ordered with the form on our website.

**Harbour Limits exercise.**

As you may know the Harbours Dept are trying to establish the defined limits of each of the different harbours and mooring areas. The SABOA committee is meeting with Harbourmaster Barry Goldman and Mike Tait, Group Leisure Manager, next Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, to discuss this. Examples of these can be found on the Ports of Jersey website.

**Security / Fairy Lights**

Several weeks ago a member had the petrol tank and fuel lines stolen from a boat on the outhauls which was below the fused light on the pier by the steps. There was a spate of this happening two years ago. We are still hoping that discussions between the Parish and Harbours will take forward our idea of installing fairy lights on both quays again, which will improve security. In the meantime, do keep things locked up and do report any instances of theft to both the MLS and the police, otherwise it gives a false impression of crime if not reported and may raise awareness of connections and patterns of crime. Even better, it may of course help get your stolen items back to you.

**SABOA Trailer**

It is possible that we might acquire a trailer for the use of SABOA members but of course we could not expect to keep this on the quay. If anyone knows of a place where a trailer could be kept please make contact.

**Gorey BOA Regatta.**

We have been asked to let members know that the Logicalis Gorey Regatta will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June this year. In its 157<sup>th</sup> year, the Gorey Regatta is one of the oldest in the world. The website is [www.goreyregatta.org](http://www.goreyregatta.org)

We hope that all members will have a fantastic 2014 boating season.

Alan Le Rossignol  
Hon. Sec. SABOA  
17th April, 2014