



St Aubin's Boat Owners' Association

Newsletter July 2014

The last newsletter was just before Easter and the huge sand bank at the harbour mouth had been only partly removed but was completed soon after. We were developing a huge backlog of tasks around the harbour and I am very happy to report that a huge amount of progress has been made over the last 6 weeks. The very stormy weather had required work all around the island and had contributed to a long wait time to get things done. We were very fortunate that the wave defence for The Shack stood up well and it was only moved a few inches. This recent spell of lovely weather has reminded us what it is all about although it has often been rather choppy at the St Aubin side of the bay with the north easterly winds!

Welcome to all our recent new members. Our membership is just over 150 members. We still have a few who have not paid subs and these will be removed from membership at end of July if subs. are still unpaid. If you know of boat owners who are not members, please try to persuade them to join us. Our continuing aim is to improve things for all boat owners and harbour users and we put a huge effort into improving things for everyone. If you have any concerns at all regarding any harbour matters please make them known to a member of the committee whose names are on the website. We usually meet monthly with harbour reps. and do our very best to solve problems.

Dan Downey updated our fantastic website, www.saboa.webs.com and there is a huge amount of information available there including of course the all important weather forecast. This year excellent Passage Plans have been made freely available by one of our members. There is a useful, "For Sale," section which you are able to use, a monthly puzzle of coastal photos and an article about fishing featuring Mark "The Fish" Le Riche. Also new is a monthly article featuring a member's boat. Our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/StAubinsBoatOwnersAssociation continues to be popular with some members.

For your information 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

Contact Details:

If you have a jerseyemail email address please note that the service ceases in August so please remember to send your new email address. Also if you change any other details such as boat name, email address, telephone number or postal address please do let us know.

Windscreen discs.

There are many windscreen discs awaiting collection in The Shack. These show boat name and telephone number. We use these to try and keep the south quay free for boat owners.

South groyne experiment:

Since the sand in the harbour mouth was removed it has been creeping back. We are hoping that a small section of the south groyne will be removed to see if it has a flushing effect in taking sand beyond the end. This should be happening at the beginning of August and the removed rocks will be put in place alongside the outside of the north pier beyond the fuel berth.

Dinghy Check/Cull:

After 29th June all dinghies will be checked including those in the racks. They must have a clear name, T/T or JY/J registered to the owner or parent vessel. Painters must be of 8 – 10 feet length and security cables or chains must match the painter length. Dinghies must not exceed the maximum length for the particular pontoon. All dinghies must be in a seaworthy condition. Dinghies must not be left on the top of pontoons as we do not have pontoons with a dinghy rail for this. The regulations are clearly explained in several notices around the harbour. Dinghies which do not comply will be removed by Harbours.

Visitors Berths:

Some boat owners are mooring craft alongside the north pier which is reserved for visitors. This is permissible only for up to 12 hours without charge and we are assured that St Aubin boats will be liable for the full daily charge if moored there.

Quay Clearance by 1st May! New Regulations.

Boat owners have customarily been asked to remove all boats, trailers and gear by 1st May each year and clearly this has not happened yet again. 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 but permission should be obtained from Harbours. After 1st May a charge is made.

We are hoping that new Regulations will be agreed for the St Aubin south pier and details will be circulated when approved. These will form part of the Jersey Harbours “General Direction No 12” which already includes regulations for the north pier. Notably, trailers

will have to be clearly labelled with name/ boat name and a contactable tel. no. and they may only be left on the quay 24 hours either side of launching and recovery except for those owned by the St Aubin marine traders.

The crane.

Fantastically the crane height has been increased by 1.7 metres and can now be used for many more boats. The slewing speed was also improved by the installation of a "soft start and creep mode" which means that it is safer to use. There is still an occasional problem with water ingress although a waterproofing ring was fitted over the gap. 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. This course will be available for SABOA members some time in the future. For those who took the Crane Operators Course last July look after your Certificate as you will also need to show the certificate to use this crane and also the hand operated crane at St Helier's South Pier which is being kept padlocked. Conditions for using cranes can be read amongst the Ports of Jersey Notices and in The Shack.

Working Berths:

We have been pressing for the availability for short stay working berths for several years and were very disappointed that these were not available for the beginning of this season. However we are now confident that three berths will soon be available at the bottom of the OCH slip when the boats there have been moved to new moorings. These berths will need to be booked but St Aubin boats will not be charged.

Use of Blocks & Drying Pads

St Aubin boat owners are not charged for using these but you do need to book 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 are a couple of feet less. If you ring up to book, please give the correct number and nomenclature shown on boards next to these to prevent any confusion.

Harbour Limits:

The SABOA committee met on 23rd April with Harbours, to establish and agree the St Aubin Harbour limits. We agreed a line from the slipway at La Haule to the end of the Fort pier, from there to the Grosse Rock and then to the end of the point south of Belcroute Bay. This is still to go for public consultation. We wished to maintain the status quo regarding netting and potting and to avoid introducing further restrictions, except for imposing a 5 knot limit within this area, with the exception of Safety Boats engaged in sailing activities.

Security / Fairy Lights

We understand that our idea of installing fairy lights on the north and south quays to improve security will happen with the costs being shared between Harbours and the Parish, but no date is in mind as yet.

SABOA Trailer

We have the offer of parking a SABOA trailer at the airport free of charge. If you know of the availability of a good general purpose trailer suitable for a variety of boats which we could acquire, please let us know as we would like to have one for SABOA members. Obviously we cannot keep this on the quays!

Electric Cables

If you are intending to use electricity cables please read the Jersey Harbours "Permanent Notice to Mariners No 1 – Electricity Cables and Supply" which applies to all harbours and boat parks. A copy is displayed in The Shack. One cable was recently taken about 50 metres into the harbour and left in place when not in use!

Lighthouse Modification:

You will notice that the lighthouse has been modified to restrict climbing and jumping from the top. Harbours were very concerned about the danger involved and it has often been a no-go area due to the numbers who commandeered the whole end of the pier. Hopefully this will now be a more pleasant area in future.

Derelict boats:

There are still a few boats which appear abandoned but Harbours have this in hand. It takes a long time to go through the legal stages of removing a craft. One of the most obvious is Merdeka which was abandoned before the dredging and this is to be removed shortly.

Marine Jumble Sale – 17th May

Our biggest annual event is the Marine Jumble Sale and this was a huge success again thanks to the efficient organisation and huge effort by Bob Thompson. The takings were £1663.46 and cheques for £750 were sent to both Air Search and the RNLI. The balance was kept for some SABOA expenses previously agreed. Thanks to all those who donated items and everyone who helped sort out, transport items, set up the stalls, sell the items and tidy up afterwards. Thanks also to everyone who attended the event and bought items. Thanks must go especially to Peter King, Life Member, for donating so many items from his workshop. All left over items have been passed on to Peter & Glen Bisson for the St Brelade's BOA beach jumble event on 27th July.

The Shack & Official Opening:

Myra Shacklady was delighted to have a place in Jersey named after her and she very kindly came along to cut the ribbon and declare "The Shack" officially open at our barbecue on Sunday 1st June. We were blessed with fantastic weather and a good turn out of members. The Shack has been a fantastic acquisition which was mainly due to Myra's clever manoeuvres! The new barbecue proved a great addition to our facilities!

For new members we have a great meeting place in a wonderful location. It has been great to see members using the bench with its vice to do jobs. The communal welly boots have been used several 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. The outboard

bracket and flushing facility is also being used. 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. We are hoping to have a hose pipe available soon. We seem to have acquired a flagpole which needs a repair and will be able to “fly our flag”.

Security at The Shack:

We are changing the padlock code from early July due to a breach of our security. The new code is for MEMBERS ONLY. Quite frequently the key in the lock has not been turned which means the padlock is the only security. Please ensure that you lock up with the key also. Keys are available for a deposit of £3 and all keys remain the property of SABOA, so that if you cease being a member you must return the key and your deposit will be returned to you. If you require a key please contact Bob Thompson.

Personal Items in The Shack:

The shack is a communal facility and any personal items may only be left there on a temporary basis and labelled. It is not to be used as a baraque for long term storage. We have about 150 members who can use the facilities and we do not want to clutter it unnecessarily. Presently there are two outboard engines occupying the bench and these need to be moved as they have been there for weeks.

Other events

Over the winter we have had regular Pub Social events and these will continue in the autumn. A fishing competition is planned for Saturday 26th July with a weigh-in at 7 pm. followed by a barbecue on the quay. Further details nearer the time!

Branchage Film Festival:

The film festival is taking part at St Aubin from 24th to 28th September. A huge variety of films and projections will be shown. Boat owners are being asked to decorate their craft for the finale on 28th or for the whole festival. High tide is at 21.38 BST on Sunday 28th and the organisers are encouraging boat owners to take part in the finale. The whole Fort area is to be animated with video and laser technology and it does sound spectacular! There will be a party on the Saturday at Coronation Park with a “Codfish Ball” . More details will follow nearer the time.

Blessing of the Waters Ceremony – RNLI:

This annual event will be on Sunday 27th July at 18.30 hrs alongside The Shack. High water is 1949 BST. Our facilities will be available to the RNLI and the churches which arrange this, for refreshments, etc. It is a very enjoyable evening event so please come along. Mark Le Riche and a number of other people are helping to collect money for the RNLI Flag Day around St Aubin on Friday 25th July, so please support that if you can too.

Falmouth 2014 Tall Ships Regatta 28th – 31st 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. If you are interested please make contact soon.

Merchandise.

We have an attractive burgee for sale at £12.50 (£1 goes to RNLI) We have a small stock of Polo shirts which we need to clear at £10 each. If we do not have your size / colour, Polo shirts may be ordered with the form on the website at £16.75 each, bearing our logo and your boat name. Woolly hats and baseball caps with the SABOA logo are also available.

We hope that all members will have a fantastic summer with plenty of boating!

Alan Le Rossignol
Hon. Sec. SABOA
28th June, 2014