



Sovereign Harbour Berth-holders' Association
-run for berth holders by berth holders



Members Newsletter
Edition No. 141
September 2017

www.shbha.co.uk

**Meet the
People....**

**Lloyd
Austin, the
new Marine
Engineer at Sovereign Harbour**



Berthed previously in Newhaven, Eastbourne better suited Lloyd's personal marina requirements.

When he first brought his boat to Sovereign Harbour about four years ago being a director and running companies had always been his way of life. For the past 18 years he had been involved in the events industry but eventually came to feel that he was very much in the rat race commuting to and from London everyday. As part of his business he would take clients' expectations, goals and imagination and turn

them into reality no matter what the budget or scale. Sometimes it was a simple company AGM, a conference or even at the other end of the spectrum a major product launch or music festival for thousands.

After a couple of years he sold his boat and bought a bigger one so that he and Beth could spend more time onboard and have more space in which to chill.

At this time, it was apparent that marine trade services were very much in demand and often unattainable so coming from a business management background plans started to unfold as he journeyed back and forth. There come times in life that you just have to take some risks by recognizing opportunities that come your way in whatever form. Some will be for the better and some not but you learn along the way and it's that, that makes for better decisions in life and creates new exciting challenges. Thinking along these lines he decided to take the plunge (not literally!!) so this year saw him make a big career change to gain a better quality of life working in an environment around all things he greatly enjoys.

Boat Harbour Ltd, Marine Servicing was started to fill the gap in the East Sussex boating industry where marine engineering services are in short supply and where boat owners are either left waiting for ridiculously long times before they can get any help or simply cannot get hold of anyone at all.



Lloyd decided he could fill this niche market and as one of his main company values is "GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE" he means to change people's perception of marine trades by giving customers a

good experience every time they come in to contact with Boat Harbour Ltd.

Since starting and operating the company, reception has been good from both berth holders and boat owners across Sussex and not only that but other local marine traders as well. When starting the company it was important to him to set out a business plan that did not compete against the present marina tenants thus enabling them all to work together specializing in different areas while helping each other.

Having owned boats practically all of his life stripping marine engines down and rebuilding them for fun, and sometimes from boredom, there was no better way to learn than from hands on experience. Keeping up to date is an important factor though as Marine engines are forever changing -not always for the better I might add - as now the newer engines are dependable on electronics to run rather than being a simple mechanical engine. This means that now engineers have to be electronics experts as well. Lloyd is backed up and trained by Kent Marine Services Ltd who have an engineering team with over 30 years' experience so he's in good hands. He is a qualified electrician as well as he needed these skills for his past jobs and this ability crossed over to boat electrics really well to ensure the job is done right and to specification.



Considering himself a good time manager he keeps on track with his tasks to ensure that he is getting a better work / life balance than when working in London. Once the job is completed and the day's

work finished he spends most of his time when not working around the marina enjoying the community spirit of the harbour.

Working on marine engines and drives, fault finding, and general boat electrics keeps him busy most of the time but his favourite part of the new job is simply being outdoors and tinkering with boats; He loves it! Conversely his heart sinks if he has to deal with rotting sea life in boat engines and strainers, as that stuff smells just awful!!

Having just returned from a cruise to France he is well rested and ready to go. To find out more about what the company has to offer visit: <http://www.marineservicing.co.uk>

Phone: 07932 318 414

Email: info@marineservicing.co.uk

And talking of new careers.....

Member Dan King has a new job. He is now the Boatshed.com agent for Sovereign Harbour. He describes himself as a sort of marine estate agent!

If you need him contact Dan King, Squeezebox, Tele 07752 375049

Update

For those who have chosen not to receive emails.....

Good news! Apparently the Belgian authorities are relaxing their attitude to red diesel, *at least until 18th September*. For more info see Practical Boat Owner, <http://www.pbo.co.uk/news/fines-red-u-put-hold-september-53919>

What's been going on?

As the courses organised came to an end we hope you got some time to use your boat over the Summer. Your committee took to their cruising plans which involved variously the Solent, France, the West Country and Holland.

During the time we were away the harbour was still an active place and there was lots going on with many of the projects being finished. These include;



- *The North and West facilities refurbishments

- *The car park lighting scheme

- *Improved facilities for users of the shed

- *Changes to various gates to improve security and also ease of use

- *More CCTV cameras.

- *The change to allow payment for lift bookings nearer to the date and the facility to pay separately for lift and relaunch

- *Changes and an upgrade to allow you to use up to 3 devices on wifi in any Premier marina without contacting the office. (Time is being invested into finding a way to have a similar system which will allow the same with fob access to make life easier for all)

We have been in discussion with the Management and are pleased to report that the following projects are being organised and should hopefully take place during the next financial year.



- *The next section of the block paving in the yard.

*Some tool storage lockers for use by owners with boats out.

*A refurb for the central facilities

*Some netting to reduce the bird problems

*Lighting and limited electricity for WU pontoon

*Phase one of the introduction of Metamax instead of electric bollards

*Phase one of the replacement of the pontoons in the lock (which will hopefully be pigeon proof!)

There have been a range of staff changes due to a variety of reasons.



There are some new systems to be introduced and there will be some increases in staffing levels. For example the allocation of maintenance staff will increase from one and a half full time equivalent to two. More staff training will be given to create more flexibility. An example of this is that more people will be qualified to use the mover, tractor and fork lift thereby keeping disruption to a minimum.

Staff are being encouraged to maintain higher standards when dealing with berth holders.



In addition to a whole host of smaller problems and concerns such as smelly bins, lights out, weed, litter picking et al that we discuss and monitor,

communication is currently being put under scrutiny. The Berth Holders' accounts, to allow differing choices of the information you receive and

how you receive it, are being set up to try and improve this.

It's all in the Communications

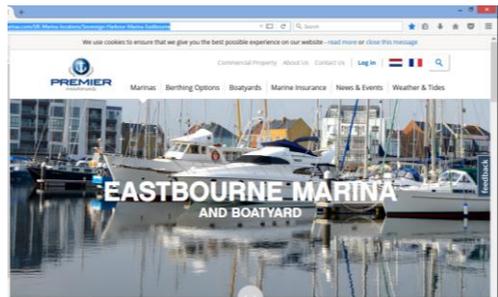


It can be a bit frustrating when the person in the next berth says 'What do you think to the last text from Premier then?'....and you have no idea what they are talking about. Similarly when they refer to the latest Masthead that you haven't even received. Or they knew the bridge had a problem before they got geared up to go out....and you didn't.

Your preferences for the ways you want Premier to communicate with you are registered and can be altered at any time. The best way to see what you are listed as having said can be found on the Eastbourne Marina home page.

Near the top right hand corner you will see either 'My Premier' or 'Log in'.

Follow the straightforward instructions to create an account and up will come the details held for you. You can change your communication preferences as often as you like. (nb They are listed as marketing preferences but have important marina information too.)



This Berth Holder exclusive area also allows you to manage your account online, including online payment for your berthing to secure the discount and updating your account details. In time this area will be developed more and eventually you will even for example, be able to pay for your electricity top up via this portal (once your berth has a Metamax bollard that is!)

<https://www.premiermarinas.com/UK-Marina-locations/Sovereign-Harbour-Marina-Eastbourne>

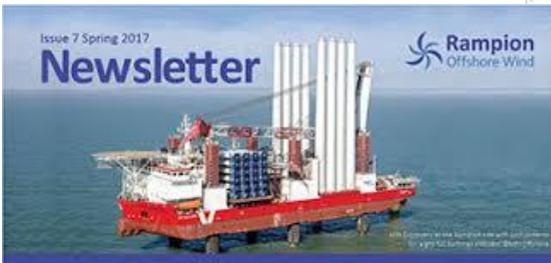
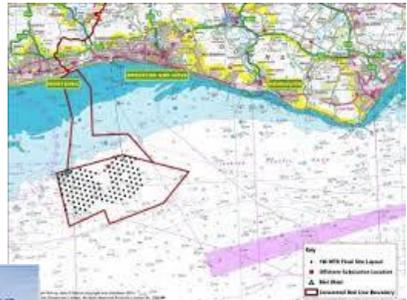
Rampion Windfarm Presentation Friday 21 April 2017

Chris Tomlinson, Development Manager, Rampion came and gave to the Association a most enjoyable and interesting presentation in the Yacht Club. He told us how the offshore Windfarm was set up, commissioned and now is under construction 13 km (8.1 miles) off the Sussex Coast. This is being developed by E.On and expected to be completed in 2018 and below are a few facts.



The site is 72 km square with a total of 116 wind turbines. Turbine height to hub is 80m. Turbine height to blade tip is 140m. The length of the blades is 55m and diameter is 112m. Height to lowest blade tip is 22m. Operational wind speeds is between 6 to 48 knots.

Overall construction cost is 1.3 billion.



We were pleased to see such a good turn out with about 50 members attending. We finished with a question and answer session.

Thanks goes to Chris.

Follow the updates and progress in quarterly newsletters via the link below:

<https://www.eonenergy.com/About-eon/our-company/generation/planning-for-the-future/wind/offshore/~/media/Content%20Editors/ECR/Rampion/Newsletters/1703-rampion-newsletter-issue-7-spring-2017.pdf>

Feedback: Thanks for a good and informative evening, we all enjoyed it. Gill

Cruise and Meet, Brighton and Littlehampton (Saturday 29 April 2017)

Well the 2nd Cruise and Meet didn't start off as planned - again the weather letting us down!! Eight boats arrived, with four other crews joining us by car. This time we welcomed a boat from Swanwick that was part of the Ashdown Sailing Club fleet. 31 of us enjoyed the spread put on by the Yacht Club - this year being a BBQ as the sun was shining when the venue and food was booked!



Unfortunately leg 2 of the cruise had to be cancelled. Albeit May, we woke up to strong winds and it felt like winter! Therefore, some boats headed back to Eastbourne and some just remained in Brighton and spent the day in the pub!!

For some the return journey was interesting, so Nigel Ashdown emailed us:

'A wise decision to remain in Brighton! After leaving on Cassiopeia we had a 12 knot offshore wind, which made a nice start. We put up full sail and were making good progress. The wind veered and dropped to about 5kts. After half hour or so the wind was on our nose. We brought in the genoa and left the full main up in case the wind picked up and motored ahead for another half hour. We were then suddenly hit by a 30kt gust from the south which caused us to round up rather rapidly into the wind. We let out the mainsheet but were buffeted by strong winds and gusts up to 35kts. As we were now on a lee shore we decided to keep the main up but fully out until we had rounded Beachy Head. This we did and then motored back to Sovereign. No harm done, but I have had more enjoyable trips!!'

Some comments that were received:

- * Thank you for your kind hospitality over the weekend, despite the weather it was enjoyed by all of the Ashdown Sailing Club members who attended.
- * It was a very good event and the food, etc was great.
- * Thank you for all the effort and work these things take to organise, looking forward to more!!
- * Enjoyable weekend, shame to not have made Littlehampton, decision not to go was the right one!



So, 3rd time lucky. Keep a check on the website, posters around the Marina and Facebook for further information on Attempt 3 next year and a date for this to happen! We are planning too to make this event 'cruise and company'!

Many thanks to Lorraine and Lloyd for organising this event.

Treasure Hunt at Sea

Possibly for the first time for the Westerly Owners in Eastbourne a "Sea Treasure Hunt" was organised to include any other Sovereign Berth Holders. The event was planned for the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of July but the weather proved to be inappropriate so the Hunt was extended to be completed by the end of July. Even this extension of time proved to have only a few windows of opportunity to complete the Hunt.

However, one stalwart sailor, Lindsay Davis on his boat "Eileidh" did manage to answer several of the clues achieving most of them correctly. The clues, researched by Tony Smith of "Caracymba", were only possible to answer by actually sailing off Eastbourne between Beachy Head and Normans Bay. Several clues involved taking a bearing from a particular place at sea and finding what the object was on that bearing; answers being the name of an hotel on the seafront, a flag or navigation mark. Obviously binoculars and hand bearing compass were necessary and credit goes to Lindsay who bought these items especially for the task.

It has been decided to have another Treasure Hunt next year but to allow its completion over a much longer time so that more folk can use the good weather to complete the clues which could probably be found by an enthusiast on one day out. Coxswain, Mark Sawyer will be running a free course for us to refresh our memories on positions, transits and bearings that would be useful for boaters whether for the Treasure Hunt or general navigation. (See forthcoming events page)

contributed by Tony Smith

BBQ (12th August)

The weather was perfect so up went the gazebo and out came the barbies! Berth Holders were tempted to the tasty nibbles whilst their own choice of food cooked. Genuine community spirit prevailed when members brought along cakes and strawberries for sharing as a sweet ending. The atmosphere was very happy and friendly with new berth holders coming to see what we were all about.



Several members joined in the optional fancy dress element of the afternoon with Lloyd and Beth winning the boat show tickets kindly donated by the Marina. It was hot and tiring work pretending to be lifeboat crew!

After all of the food, the duck racing got underway as if it was the Sovereign Derby. With names like Ellen McQuackarthur and Flying Ducksman the ducks took to the water. The tiny plastic birds didn't exactly fly or float speedily as the wind took the opportunity to drop right away. However, in due course, the winner, Black Pig, crossed the finishing hose pipe and Chairman Sue ('owner and trainer' for the night!) received two tickets for the boat show as well.



Payments via PayPal

Did you know that members can now use the PayPal facility when dealing with SHBHA?



New committee member, Christine Walker-Richmond offers the following information:

Using this method is a free way of transferring money as long as payment is funded by a bank account, debit card or PayPal balance and it doesn't involve a currency change. Unfortunately if you use a credit card there is a fee of 3.4%+20p applied.

Those currently using, or maybe thinking about using, the PayPal tool to make payments to SHBHA for membership or forthcoming events might not realise that they can choose the 'Family and Friend' option when paying. Selecting this option ensures that both you *and* the Association will not incur any fees for the transaction.



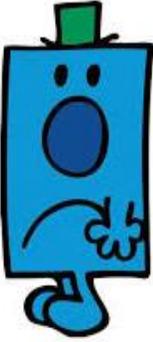
If the 'Goods and Services' option is chosen, SHBHA is charged circa £0.54p per transaction.

Every little saving helps!

Grumpy CornerEtiquette (mooring)

The mooring and leaving a berth can be an anxious time, in fact if you are not slightly nervous or apprehensive I would say you are in denial!

Vessels are getting bigger and so berths are seemingly getting 'smaller'. I offer some advice as too often I have seen and suffered trauma:



- * If someone offers to help cast your lines, take it (even if it's a simple movement). The amount of times I have offered my help only to be turned down and then watch as the vessel snags a line or it doesn't make the turn with the inevitable ensuing damage.
- * If taking a line for a boat arriving into a berth, taking the stern or mid-ship line is often the better course of action. So often the bow line is taken and then held onto a cleat or pulled in tight whilst the

boat is still moving into the berth which has the effect of pulling the bow in or hitting the pontoon and the stern going out over which the helmsman then has no control. Leave the stopping of the boat to the helmsman (that's if they are still at the helm)!

- * Stanchions and Guard-wires are not there to man handle yachts. Eventually the base will weaken, crack and leak. Use the toe rail to push off or move the yacht.
- * Rafting up - the list is endless:
 - * Use good fenders
 - * Use Fairleads
 - * Tie up against a suitable boat – it's not unreasonable to moor a 32ft against a 30ft boat – it's not going to crush it and it's easier to rig shore lines!
 - * If rafted out a few boats, it's imperative to have shore lines!

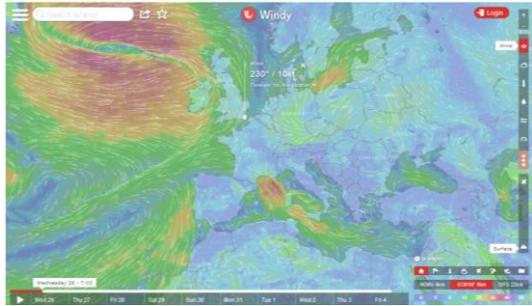
Although Paul from Big Bubble, who contributed this article, has a yacht these points also apply to motorboats and especially in the lock when rafting up the middle. Considering these points may make for a happier Captain!

Join in and add to Grumpy Corner (send your article for consideration via web site)

Every little helps.....Manager Dan recently took place in a charity bike ride on one of the hottest days of the year. Gritting his teeth and coping with the (too) many hills he completed the course and raised his target of £100 for the British Heart Foundation. Well done Dan (who was too shy to send us a picture)!!

Will it be windy?

Discussing weather forecasts with Dan Heckford before we left for a period of cruising he mentioned a site new to me.



www.windy.com

The animations are fascinating and help give you a more visual picture of what might be happening. When you get onto the site you will get the screen above. Use the wheel to alter the magnification/scale and then select your approximate location. Select your place by clicking on the map or by entering the location in the search box (in this case Eastbourne see below). You can now click and drag the white place dot over the relevant port or sea area as desired.

The red line and white time box just need a click and drag operation to get you into the time window that you need to focus on.

The calendar line can also be clicked and dragged along to show the next few days.

Wind, cloud, temperature, rain, waves and pressure are available to view.



Have fun!

Dates for Your Diary

We have a range of courses that might interest you over the 'down season'. Posters will appear around the harbour and information can be found on the website nearer each event.

Southampton Boat Show 15th -24th September

DSC Distress calling Saturday 14th October A repeat 'hands on' course for those who couldn't make it last time around. **Numbers will be limited and you will need to book**



Halloween BBQ Saturday 28th October 00000h!!!

Coffee Morning and Hamper Presentation for Eastbourne Lifeboat Crew **Saturday 25th November. Everyone welcome**



Sovereign Shines 2017 Light up from 1st December, judging will take place on the best day between Friday 8th and 15th December. Prizes for each harbour are up for grabs or just join in the community event which will also raise funds for Eastbourne lifeboat.

Positions and Bearings 27th January 2018 A new 'hands on' course run by Mark Sawyer, coxswain, Eastbourne Lifeboat to help us all brush up on this area. The skills practised will help not only with your boating and navigation but with the Treasure Hunt to be organised for the summer of 2018



Splash! Saturday 17th February 2018 (pm)

Another chance to try out a range of safety equipment in your wet weather gear with an opportunity to see and board a liferaft.

Crossing the Shipping Lanes Saturday 10th

March 2018 This new course, which was requested by members, will be followed by a French themed lunch. Ooh La La! **Mark Sawyer will lead us through the do's and don'ts of venturing further afield.**



Also new (date yet to be confirmed).....'Below the Waterline' (Maintenance) Preparation, techniques and tips related to safe antifouling of the hull plus checking anodes, seacocks and the like. Lead by Tim Nichols this session is a must, especially as there will be some special offers available.



Your Officers and Committee work voluntarily to help you enjoy Sovereign Harbour. We ask you to encourage others to join and keep the Association strong.

Chairman & West Harbour Rep	Sue Sydney (WS17)	Sovereign Star
Vice Chairman & Central rep	Gill Clare (G23)	Morning Mist
Membership Secretary	Nigel Dumbell (F30)	Tipsy Tart
Secretary	David Baird (J23)	Lobster III
Treasurer & Asst Editor	Lorraine Elliott (WS16)	Big Bubble
North Harbour	Mason Pendrey (NF06)	Moody B
South Harbour	Peter Crowhurst(SW03)	Shim Sham
Webmaster	Lloyd Austin (WT 17)	Sea Runner
Newsletter Editor	Roy Sydney (WS17)	Sovereign Star
Committee members	Beth Austin (WT 17)	Sea Runner
Christine & Rob Walker Richmond	(WS 08)	Always There

All members of the committee and officers can be contacted via the website

Our thanks for printing this edition go to Steve Teague from

**and on a final note....
For good health...**



www.spectreprint.co.uk
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DO YOU?