



Mr James Henderson, HarbourMaster
HarbourMaster's Office
Quayside
Banff
AB45 1HQ

james.henderson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

01261 81 5544

Spring Newsletter 2013

Spring is here again – supposedly - although looking outside you would be forgiven for thinking otherwise. It is good to see the Marina becoming busy once more. We have a few new faces as is the case normally at this time of year – I am sure you will all do your very best to make them feel welcome.



I am pleased to report that the maintenance dredge of the middle and outer basin appears to have been successful again this year, the Ugie Runner and long reach excavator teamed up over Easter weekend to provide a job well done.

Also earlier this month there was a meeting of the Harbour Advisory Committee, representatives from pontoon, traditional and business berth holders attended along with Councillors and Council Officers. Various topics were discussed including rates and dues, last years works programme and the forth coming years plans as well as any berth holder's comments – if any berth holder wishes to attend these meetings in the future please let either myself or any other member of the committee know of your wishes.

Current Committee Members include: Phil Hemsley, Kenny Galloway, Peter Hayman, Roma Brookes and Chris Hollingdale.

Brought up at the meeting was the issue of noisy halyards, please could you double check that your halyards are as secure as possible in order that they do not cause annoyance to our neighbours.

Whilst on the issue of house keeping I will take the opportunity to inform you that as normal the Gate Codes will be changed for the new season - week beginning 22nd April 2013 – also this year it is our intention to change the codes for the toilets as it has been a while since they have been set and evidence suggests people are using this code who should not have access to it - as ever please contact me to obtain the new codes and endeavour not to hand them out unnecessarily. I am now back to working my full summer hours and will be at the

harbour 6 days a week or on my mobile if required. There are a few copies of this years tide tables still available as well so if you haven't had one yet then please pop by and pick one up.

I am pleased to say that we have purchased a landing davit for the harbour and I am currently discussing potential positions with fishermen and harbour engineers. We hope to have the unit up and working in the very near future. If anyone has any comments then please let me know. We have also ordered a mooring buoy for the bay and are currently awaiting its delivery – this will provide a safe anchorage for those of you needing to wait for the tide.

It has also been proposed that an ice machine be sited here at the Marina for local Fishermen to preserve their catch, it is intended that this service will be available to all Aberdeenshire Council berth holders and potentially other customers for a fee. It has to be stated that this proposal is still at an early stage, however it must be said that so far it has been treated most favourably.

There will be an Open Day again this year at the harbour – proposed date 26th May 2013 – for further information contact Helen Robbins at the Sailing Club.

Virtually all of you have returned your application forms now, thank you for your prompt attention to this matter (if you are one of the few still to reply then please return your form as a matter of urgency.) Instalment payment due dates for those choosing to use that method of payment are, as always –

1st Instalment - 31st March	- 50% Berth Fees
2nd Instalment - 30th June	- 25% Berth Fees
3rd Instalment - 30th Sept	- 25% Berth Fees

This year it is our intention to store all trailers in the top compound to keep the bottom compound free for any short term maintenance required during the upcoming season. The area of the top compound nearest the office will be kept for use by compound berth holders. Could you please ensure that your trailers are marked and that they are in a suitable condition for harbour operatives to move them if required. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Some trailers are still currently stored in the compound at Macduff, if you require your trailer please let us know and the trailer can be returned to Banff. Also whilst on the topic of the compounds, bins and an oily waste disposal point are provided could you please do your best to keep the area around your boat or trailer tidy as it has been commented on that the compounds are starting to look a little untidy.

A final reminder that 'Project Kraken' is still ongoing so:

'If you suspect it. **REPORT** it.' Call **0800 789 321**



Fingers crossed for plenty of good weather and fair winds I look forward to seeing you all in the coming season at the Marina and along the coast.

Right enough chatter – lets all go sailing!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sam'.