

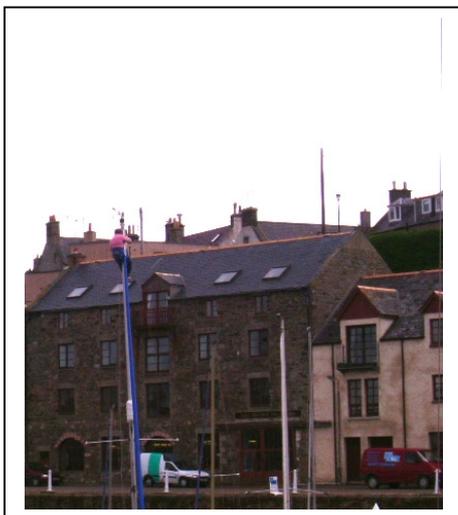


Banff Harbour Newsletter – July 2007

The month is passing by in a damp and windy blur – which is not conducive to happy boating. Nevertheless, some of you are managing to get out on the water to enjoy a bit of fishing or sailing, and we are welcoming a steady flow of visitors to the Marina.

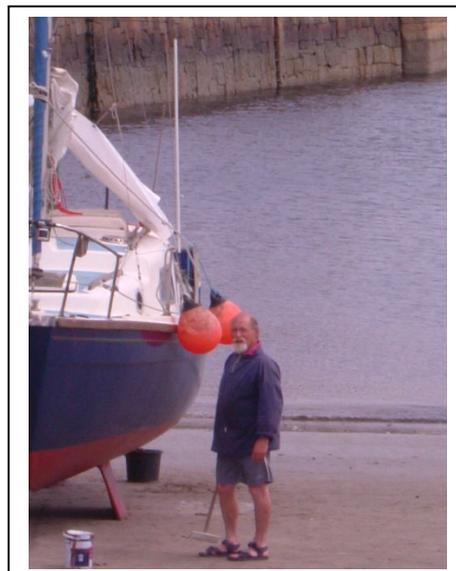
“Wanda”, “Joker” and “Rare Bird” recently called in, and I also got a call from a previous visitor – “Sea Horse” – confirming that he intends calling back during his return trip from the Canal. Thank you to those harbour users who have extended a warm welcome to our visitors, by assisting with a friendly and helpful attitude.

The Old Quay repair work has progressed well, with the masonry work only one or two courses from the top at the time of writing. I echo the positive comments made by several harbour users regarding the manner in which the repair work has been undertaken.



During the month, we have seen good examples of boat maintenance being carried out, and the two pictures show how you are dealing with looking after your boats from “the top to the bottom”!

Esther takes the bravery accolade for going up “Gidelim’s” mast twice, and Don from “Shy Talk” takes the “just made it” accolade for his tide calculations being centimetre perfect to (just!) re-float after cleaning and anti-fouling on the beach.



The response to winter storage requirements has been steady – I look forward to receiving those outstanding at your earliest convenience.

Some housekeeping notes:

Unfortunately a trolley was placed under one of the bridges at low water, and the tide came in, crushing the trolley under the bridge. Since then, timber buffers have been placed to prevent this happening again. Please also be careful when leaving a trolley empty, as wind can easily blow them off the pontoons – this has only happened once!

On recent soundings, I have noted that the sand bar near the entrance to the harbour has risen by 10-20cm. This would place it very close to Chart Datum, and means that the average depth of the channel will become approximately 70cm shallower as you cross the bar when going out. This bar lies diagonally towards the North Pier, starting from just inside the Old Quay.



It is our intention to dig this sand bar away in the very near future. I will keep you posted with this progress, and in the mean time, please take this note into account when planning your exit/entrance to the Harbour.

Welcome to the recent launchings of “May”, “Pursuit”, “Merbreeze” and “Emma”. These are all boats to take up traditional moorings in the top corner. The preparation of this area should be completed in the next week or so. My apologies for any inconvenience caused to the harbour users on the north pontoons - water supply was cut off owing to a faulty stopcock. At the time of writing, I am waiting for this to be rectified.

I was hoping to be able to inform you of the revised/new website in this news letter, but we need just a little more patience, as Paul puts the finishing touches to the final construction, which will then be commissioned. I am sure it will be worth waiting for!

Please send me any items or pictures that you think will be of interest to the Banff Harbour users in this newsletter. I have recently been propelled into the modern communications world, and can be contacted on e-mail at the following address:

ian.koller@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Stay dry!

