

Bembridge Harbour - a positive future



Since buying the Harbour in December 2011, Fiona and Malcolm Thorpe have shared a passion for all that happens within the Harbour and for its future.

Their improvements and investments to-date include:

- New and extended pontoons at the Duver and Fishermans - live digital display tide height gauge - new Harbour taxis engines.
- A professionally advised three year dredging programme to manage an annual average disposal of 38,500 metric tonnes of silt from the entrance channel and Harbour - double the 2011 quantum.
- An events area for rallies and visitors that together with promotional talks to mainland and Island clubs has resulted in a 39% increase in visiting yachts. Events such as the Family Fun Weekend have become annual attractions, bringing substantial inward spending to the East Wight area where local pubs, clubs, shops, restaurants and taxis all benefit.
- Setting up and investing into Bembridge Boat Storage dry stack facility, creating 3 full time jobs.
- Investment into Harbour staff, now employing double the 2011 numbers annually to provide an efficient and professional customer service.
- The adoption of a Safety Management System (under PMSC), externally audited to "exemplary" standards together with investment in new safety equipment.
- A new state of the art computer management system - online bookings -

monthly newsletters - Harbour wide wi-fi - new website.

- The Palmer Memorial has been given over to community ownership and the creation of a village green supported.

In addition, the Harbour has raised money for various charities - Sail 4 Cancer, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, and for 2016 are pleased to announce they will be supporting Ryde Inshore Rescue - an independent lifeboat organisation.

A positive future...

A positive and exciting future based on an anticipated planning permission, combined with a legal agreement (Section 106 Planning Agreement) between the Isle of Wight Council and both Harbour companies, will allow us to implement investment into our shoreside facilities within the next 24 months that will subsequently involve the development of 13 new houses around the Harbour. We want to invest in:

- Installing a floating shower/ toilet facility at Bembridge Marina that will be more efficient than the existing under-used facility with no loss of commercial berthing space.
- Creating a new Marina car park with 40 laid out spaces.
- At the Duver replace the present ex-shipping containers used as staff room/berthing office with a modern berthing/admin office complex to include 17 toilet and 15 shower cubicles (instead of the existing 9 toilet and shower cubicles), new laundry facilities, coffee/shop facilities and reception, a new sewerage treatment system, improved electric power supply and

improved car parking layout.

- Creation within the 8.6 acre ex-silt lagoon on Embankment Road of an area for wildlife to flourish between the RSPB land and the Harbour waterside.

These works will also create new employment opportunities and bring new Harbour customers to the East Wight.

Summary: All the sites bar the ex-silt lagoon land are classified as brownfield sites and comply with the latest Government thinking of re-classifying commercial office buildings for residential use. The withdrawal of The Old Boathouse and Selwyn business units sites is as a result of recent consultation with Natural England and the Isle of Wight Council.

An undertaking was given at the public meeting in January 2012 to re-invest into the Harbour and include some property development; our present planning application has secured conditional approval from the Environmental Agency, Island Roads and Hampshire's Ecology Officer, with Natural England having withdrawn their previous objections.

Looking ahead, regeneration plans include managing the silt invasion at either end of the Harbour - enlarging the car park at Fishermans and dredging - extending Marina berthing - improving Selwyn pontoon facilities - working with the houseboats to improve their waste disposal - and at all times "Preserving and enhancing the Harbour, its approaches and setting for the benefit of the public including users of the Harbour and the communities of Bembridge and St Helens on the Isle of Wight".

The Harbour Team send Season's Greetings to all users of the Harbour, past, present and future.

Special Berthing Offers



Fore & aft "Trot" Moorings

1 April - 30 September 2016

Any boat up to 9m - only £325 per mooring inc. Harbour Dues, complimentary water taxi.

Additional months on the Duver Pontoon
Dec 2015 - Mar 2016 & Oct 2016-Mar 2017 only
£30 per month. **Offer expires 11 December 2015.**

25% off walk-ashore Duver Pontoon

Berthing available to 31 March 2016 - £15/m per month - discounted to £12.50/m per month before 1 December.

Free parking & use of shower/toilet facilities - prices inc VAT

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