



C. A. Y. F. Newsletter

This is an occasional newsletter from the Crouch Area Yachting Federation for affiliated Clubs, issued only when there is something of interest to tell your members. Designed to be pinned on noticeboards

Issue: August 2017

Feedback from CHA Survey

Thank you to all the clubs that returned the summer Crouch Harbour Authority stakeholder satisfaction survey. The results were:-

How likely are you to use the CHA Website? Extremely likely 47%, very likely 18%, moderately 17% slightly 25%

When dealing with the CHA are they helpful? Extremely 64%, Very 36%, Moderately, slightly and not Nil

Do the CHA safeguard your use of the harbour? Extremely well 58%, very well 42% moderately, slightly, not Nil

Do you think the CHA provide good value? Extremely good 36%, very good 54%, moderately 10%

The conclusions are that the CHA are helpful, courteous and provide good value.

Richard Bessey RYA Lifetime Commitment Award

We are delighted to be informed by the RYA Honours and Awards panel that Richard Bessey has been conferred with an RYA Community Award for Lifetime Commitment. Richard has given the last 15 years to dedicating his time to helping and preserving yachting on the Rivers Crouch and Roach. He was Hon Secretary and moorings officer of the Roach Sailing Association for 15 years; appointed as a member of the Crouch Harbour Authority Advisory Committee for the last 10 years; elected by Clubs as a member of the CAYF management committee since 2008 and in 2010 took over as Hon Secretary of CAYF until his resignation last year. We have taken the slightly unusual step of announcing Richard Bessey's award before the official presentation in November because he is presently sailing around the world and will not be able to attend the presentation in person! Richard dedicated his time to preserving our boating interests, sat on many sub committees and working parties about the river and foreshore and was Parish Councillor, so this award is entirely appropriate and well deserved. Well done Richard.

Trawling in the Upper Crouch

At a recent Heads of the River Combined Clubs Committee, Commodores expressed concerns about the trawlers operating in the Upper Crouch damaging the riverbed whilst trawling for clams. Their concerns were from the damage to the eco systems living on the seabed by the constant trawling of the riverbed in the same place; eroding the riverbed levels and exposing mooring sinkers which are dragging. The Chairman was asked to write to the Marine Management Organisation, the CHA expressing concerns and requesting action; also to request the Inshore Fisheries Enforcement Agency for inspection of the trawlers concerned to be satisfied they are operating legally.

Riding Light displayed whilst at anchor

The Harbour Master has recently been in receipt of correspondence from several concerned river users that some Ships (see definition below) are anchoring in the CHA District and in particular within the designated anchorage at the entrance to the river Roach without displaying the correct night and day signals (Lights & Shapes).

Accordingly, she reminds Mariners of their obligation under the International Regulations for Preventing of Collisions at Sea:

Part C - Lights & Shapes

Rule 30 - Anchored Vessels & Vessel Aground

(a) A vessel at anchor shall exhibit where it can best be seen:

(i) in the fore part, an all-round white light or one ball;

(ii) at or near the stern and at a lower level than the light prescribed in subparagraph (i), an all-round white light.

(b) A vessel of less than 50 metres in length may exhibit an all-round white light where it can best be seen instead of the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule.

(c) A vessel at anchor may, and a vessel of 100 meters and more in length shall, also use the available working or equivalent lights to illuminate her decks.

(e) A vessel of less than 7 meters in length, when at anchor not in or near a narrow channel, fairway or where other vessels normally navigate, shall not be required to exhibit the shape prescribed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule.

‘Ship’ – Includes every description of vessel used in navigation, seaplanes on the surface of the water and hovercraft within the meaning of the Hovercraft Act 1968.

VHF Channel changes

- The VHF channels HM Coastguard uses to broadcast Maritime Safety Information (MSI) and conduct radio medical advice are changing.

From mid-morning on Wednesday 6 September 2017 the Coastguard will no longer broadcast on VHF 23, 84 and 86. It will instead use **VHF 62, 63 and 64**. The use of VHF Channel 10 for MSI and pollution control (back up) is unchanged. If you're out on the water and don't know which channel to listen to, MSI broadcasts will continue to be announced by the Coastguard on Channel 16. This announcement enables the mariner to establish which channel to monitor to receive the broadcast.

- Cruising mariners are reminded that the CHA patrol vessels monitor Channel 11 which may be useful for boats inward of the Whittaker. This includes the pilot vessel Crouch Trident when escorting commercial ships into and out of Baltic Wharf at Creeksea.

RYA Push the boat out 2018

Push the Boat out will be held during the month of May next year leaving it to Clubs to sort out their own dates to suit tides and clashing between neighbouring clubs

Affiliated Clubs Conference - Diary date

Please note that the Region's Affiliated Clubs Conference will be on Sunday 29 October at Royal Hospital School, Holbrook. Further details of the topics and workshops will be announced in the future I look forward to seeing you at the Conference.

Red Diesel

In response to red diesel fines that occurred in Belgium at the end of June and earlier this month, the RYA have circulated this official guidance. The Minister of Finance office advised that due to there being different treatment on how the use of red diesel in pleasure craft is dealt with in different EU member states, Belgian customs has suspended all controls until there has been a debate at EU level to ensure a uniform approach in all member states. This debate is expected to take place on 18 September 2017. **“This means that British yachts can enter Belgian ports without fear of being fined.”** It should however be noted that this is not a change to the Belgian legislation. It is simply a statement that the law will not be enforced in the short term.

Local Club Hanningfield Sailability win RS Venture Class

More than 50 boats and 74 sailors converged at Rutland Water on 5/6 August to compete at Britain's biggest disabled sailing event, that had prizes up for grabs in seven classes. I am delighted to report that local Hanningfield Sailors Daniel Wilson and Roy Hall winning the RS Venture Class. See <http://www.rya.org.uk/go/sailability> .

CAYF Officers representing your interests in 2017

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