

For Mooring Holders

GUERNSEY HARBOURS 2023 NEWSLETTER



Introduction

Dear Mooring Holder.

We hope you enjoyed the 2022 season as much as we did. Guernsey was blessed with good weather and we trust you took full advantage of the conditions, and our fantastic cruising grounds within the Bailiwick and further afield. It was our pleasure to welcome back many visitors who had not graced our shores since before the pandemic.

We anticipate welcoming even more to the island this year. With a busy season ahead, including the island games, various rallies and regattas (we already have over 20 booked in), boat shows, cruise ships and inter-island ferry operations, we politely ask all stakeholders to be safe on the water, respectful to one another and mindful of the various operations ongoing within our harbour limits.

Last year saw 172 mooring allocations and over 40 reallocations, with waiting list numbers still just exceeding 200. This figure does appear to be stabilising, and there are signs of more moorings becoming available as our process of contacting the owners of boats which appear neglected or unused, continues.

We have replaced two runs of pontoons in the Albert Marina and the programme of refurbishment and replacement will continue in 2023. I would like to thank boat owners in advance for their cooperation in this process.

A new initiative this year is the introduction of metering electricity for vessels on our moorings. Previously, electrical supply to berths has been charged at a fixed annual rate. But this has not come close to covering the cost of units used and unfairly disadvantages small boat owners, compared to those with larger vessels which consume more.

Beginning with the larger vessels, we are rolling out meters to measure and charge for actual consumption and we ask for your full cooperation in this programme.

Finally to matters of safety. Although rare, we do see instances where vessels are handled in a way that endangers other users of our coastal waters or risks damaging our marine environment or the wildlife which depend on it. I encourage anyone who sees such behaviour to let us know, either by phone, email or VHF call to Guernsey VTS.

This brings me back to the '3 Ps' – always: PREPARE yourself and your boat before sailing; PROVIDE the right equipment on board and PERFORM responsibly on the water.

Captain David Barker

Harbourmaster & Registrar of
British Ships, Guernsey Harbours



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Meet the Team

Meet the marina team, who work around the clock to ensure the smooth operation of our harbours.

Our marina attendants, managers and services staff are always available to assist you with queries or guidance. We dedicate our time to ensure a convenient service for local and visiting boat users to manage their mooring affairs via the Marine Services Centre. The Marine Service team handles all transactions relating to visiting and local boat owners. From payments and local boat registration, to mooring account support and general info.

If you have any questions or concerns our Marine Services Centre is located on the Albert Pier and open Monday - Friday 8am to 4pm, excluding Bank Holidays.

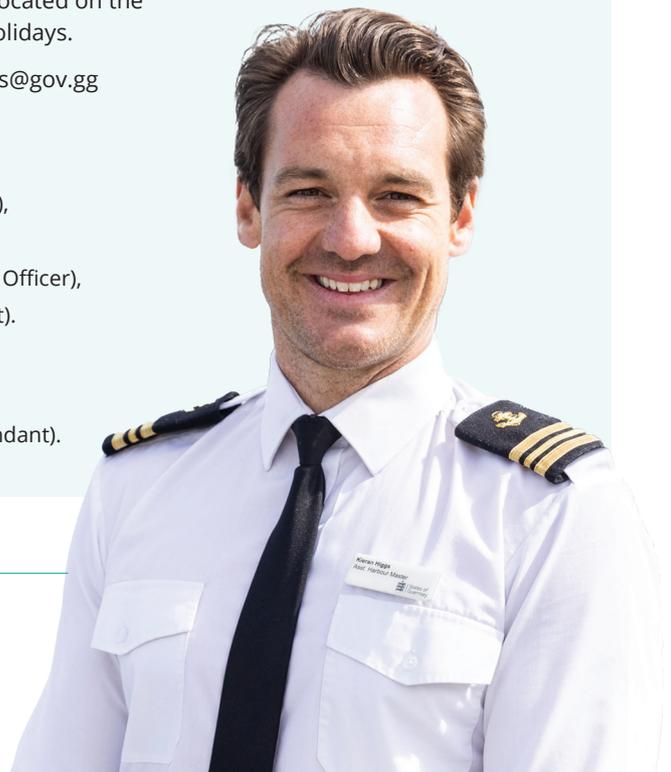
Contact us via telephone +44 (0)1481 220654 or email marine.services@gov.gg or guernsey.harbour@gov.gg

Top row (left to right):

[Vicky Eborall](#) (Marine Services Officer), [Mick Wratten](#) (Marina Attendant),
[Wayne Lowe](#) (Marina Attendant), [Jason Garnham](#) (Marina Attendant),
[Tony De La Mare](#) (Marina Attendant), [Laura Wakeford](#) (Marine Services Officer),
[Pete Floyd](#) (Marina Attendant), [Colin Mechem](#) (Marine Services Assistant).

Bottom row (left to right):

[Tom Hyde](#) (Marina Attendant), [Steve Lowe](#) (Marina Manager),
[Kieran Higgs](#) (Assistant Harbour Master), [Matt Scrimshaw](#) (Marina Attendant).



Kieran Higgs

Assistant Harbour Master



Marine Infrastructure Review

Guernsey Ports is undertaking a review of marina infrastructure, which includes plans to install smart meters on pontoons for all berth holders requiring electricity.

Under current arrangements, berth holders pay a one-off annual fee for unlimited electricity. However, in many cases, this single charge does not cover the actual electricity used and as such,

costs of using this service are not being met. This new infrastructure will take some time to implement but, in the meantime, we intend to install Metermaids on all vessels exceeding 15m length overall,

then systematically work through installations as required.

These in-line portable electricity meters accurately measure individual electricity consumption so that the actual usage can be measured and charged back to the customer. This rollout will commence from 1st April 2023 and customers will be contacted directly by Marine Services to arrange their meter installation.

St Sampsons Security Codes

Improving our Marinas capacity and security wherever possible has been a priority for our team. The security codes in St Sampson's harbour have all been recently updated/changed, in line with our security policy. All berth holders affected will have been contacted directly. If you are a St Sampson's berth holder and have not got the new codes, please contact us.

Marina Optimisation

The team have been very busy optimising our marinas, clearing abandoned vessels and chasing up unseaworthy vessels.

This process is ongoing as we try to accommodate as many boat owners as possible, so we can maximise our marina offering. We are still operating with an extensive waiting list for vessels of all sizes, so if you are looking to upgrade your vessel, please communicate with us at the earliest convenience.

Our rolling programme to upgrade and replace our oldest and most worn pontoons continues. During 2022, we successfully replaced V and W pontoons in the Albert Marina. The next small project to be completed will be the installation of large finger pontoons

on E pontoon in the QE2 marina which will create additional moorings for vessels up to 15 metres.

The replacement of the commercial Fish Quay pontoon is also a priority for this year.

Additional Jet ski moorings have also been created within the QE2 marina, as we continue to see an uplift in these watercraft.

An extensive review of our drying areas has also been conducted which has proven useful, identifying further dry mooring opportunities for vessel owners who are happy to take to the seabed on each tide.

Additional pool moorings have also been reinstated to try and relieve increased demand. Many of these moorings are allocated to commercial operators and active commercial fishing vessels.

Ongoing News: Maintenance

Havelet slipway repair work is now complete and open to the public for use.

All wooden fendering, lining all pontoons, has now been carefully removed and replaced with composite fendering. The maintenance team continue to upgrade and improve these areas as we usher in the new season.

Optimising our marina berths

We are procuring 2 x additional 12m fingers to be installed on EC Pontoon in the QE2 Marina which should further optimise this area of the marina and help allocate some of the larger vessels from the top of our waiting list. A condition survey is also to be completed of the QE2 Marina this year to help the team establish a timeframe and plan for further pontoon replacement and maintenance.

Electricity roll out of meter maids

Guernsey Ports is undertaking a review of marina infrastructure, which includes plans to install smart meters on pontoons for all berth holders that require electricity.

Vessel insurance

It is a legal requirement for all berth holders to have valid vessel insurance, so we ask that all customers [email us a copy of your insurance to \[marine.services@gov.gg\]\(mailto:marine.services@gov.gg\)](mailto:marine.services@gov.gg)



Layby Information

Local layby areas for vessels remain available in the following areas:

Local layby Pontoon

For short stays up to 24hrs.

West side of walk ashore pontoons

Applies to west side of the pontoons only. Up to 12 hours free of charge. Owners must check-in with the marina office on VHF Channel 80 or by calling 01481 220609. Charges will be incurred for longer stays on this pontoon and your vessel may be towed if no contact has been made with the marina office.



Cambridge steps

These steps are available for short drop offs and pick-ups only. Boats should never be left unattended at these points; they are for the safe and quick transfer of people and not for any other use.

The Cruise liner pontoon

This can be available for short layovers via prior booking with the marina office. Boats should never be left unattended on this pontoon. With a busy schedule of cruise ships visits planned this year, this pontoon will not always be available.

Please work closely with the marina staff on duty to make these facilities work smoothly for everyone, whilst we also continue to welcome the many visiting yachtsmen to the island this Summer.

Staycation offers will continue this year up until the beginning of May (dependant on demand) this will be priced at £15.00 per night for all current mooring holders.

Relocation of Marine Service Centre

Guernsey Ports have a project in place to relocate the Ships Registry and local marine service centre to make a combined leisure hub on the New Jetty.

Plans are in place to be fully operational in the new office by the end of 2023. We will ensure all service users are kept informed of this progress.

The new building will allow for all vessel administration to be conducted from one single office, with improved parking and access facilities immediately outside the office.



Winter Maintenance

Marina staff have completed pressure washing of approximately 4.5 miles of pontoons across three marinas this winter, ensuring they remain in good working condition and prevent slips and trips.

They have also continued to service the fleet of dories ready for the 2023 season. New numbering tags have also been installed on each pontoon row to indicate the correct berth

positions across the marinas. This will aid identifying the correct berth when mooring.

The team are aware of many anchors overhanging the pontoons. We kindly ask berth holders to be respectful of other users and not to overhang their bows into the pontoon walkway. This can be very dangerous for other users. If you wish to report a hazard to the team, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We also have a limited number of cleats in stock, so should your mooring lack sufficient cleats, please contact us and we can arrange for these to be installed. Please be advised that during the summer season, we may not be able to tend to your request as readily due to the increase in visitor demand. Please email us at marine.services@gov.gg.

Vessel Traffic Services

Guernsey VTS (Vessel Traffic Services) has been operating from the new Signal Station building on the end of the White Rock Pier since April 2022.

The improved accommodation has weathered everything from a blisteringly hot summer to 60 knot winds and has proved to be a fantastic working environment for our small team of VTS Officers

to carry out their vital traffic management duties.

Also, the IALA Port Traffic Signal Lights have been operational since May 2022 controlling entry and exit to/from St Peter Port harbour.

Whilst we are confident that the new signals have improved safety in the harbour and approaches, as leisure customers, we would be keen to hear your feedback. Please email us at: guernsey.harbour@gov.gg if you have any comments.



Mooring Permits

Mooring permits have been reintroduced this year and we ask all berth holders to stick these onto a visible section of your vessel so the teams can ensure vessels are moored in the correct locations and to better indicate illegally moored boats. These permits must be displayed at all times.

Berth holders are reminded that under their Terms & Conditions of their mooring agreement that moorings cannot be left vacant for a period exceeding 6 months.

The 3Ps

With the new season upon us, Guernsey Ports ask all mariners to refer to the 3Ps guidance. Safety on the water is our top priority and we encourage all mariners to Prepare, Provide and Perform accordingly.

Most incidents that we attend are preventable with the right knowledge and equipment so please ensure your vessel and passengers are properly prepared and equipped for the expected conditions.

KEY DATES for your calendar

- 1 Jersey Boat Show
28th – 30th April
- 2 Kings Coronation
6th May
- 3 Liberation Day
9th May
- 4 Morlaix Race (GSY)
18th -19th May
- 5 Savills Inter Island Yacht Race
24th June
- 6 Island Games
Jersey / Guernsey
8th - 14th July
- 7 Tour de Ports
11th July
- 8 Harbour Carnival
Victoria Marina
21st July

Prepare

YOURSELF
With the knowledge you need to be safe on the water (weather forecast, tides, currents).

YOUR BOAT
Engines, rigging, hull, electronics, bilge pump etc.

YOUR TRIP
Make a plan; Where you are going and how long for. Tell someone who isn't coming with you!

Provide

THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT
Lifejackets, life raft, radio, flares, fire extinguisher, EPIRB, navigational chart, kill cord.

A BRIEFING
For your passengers and crew.

SEA SAFE

Perform

Act responsibly on the water.

Remember your duty to look after your passengers and crew.

Observe the 'rule of the road' and speed limits in and around harbours and bays.

Seawater and alcohol don't mix!

Be considerate to other mariners - THINK WAKE!

Practice your actions in the event of an emergency (distress call, man overboard).

Please enjoy our island waters safely.

Most incidents we attend are preventable with the right knowledge and equipment.

Please make sure your vessel and passengers are properly prepared and equipped for the expected conditions.

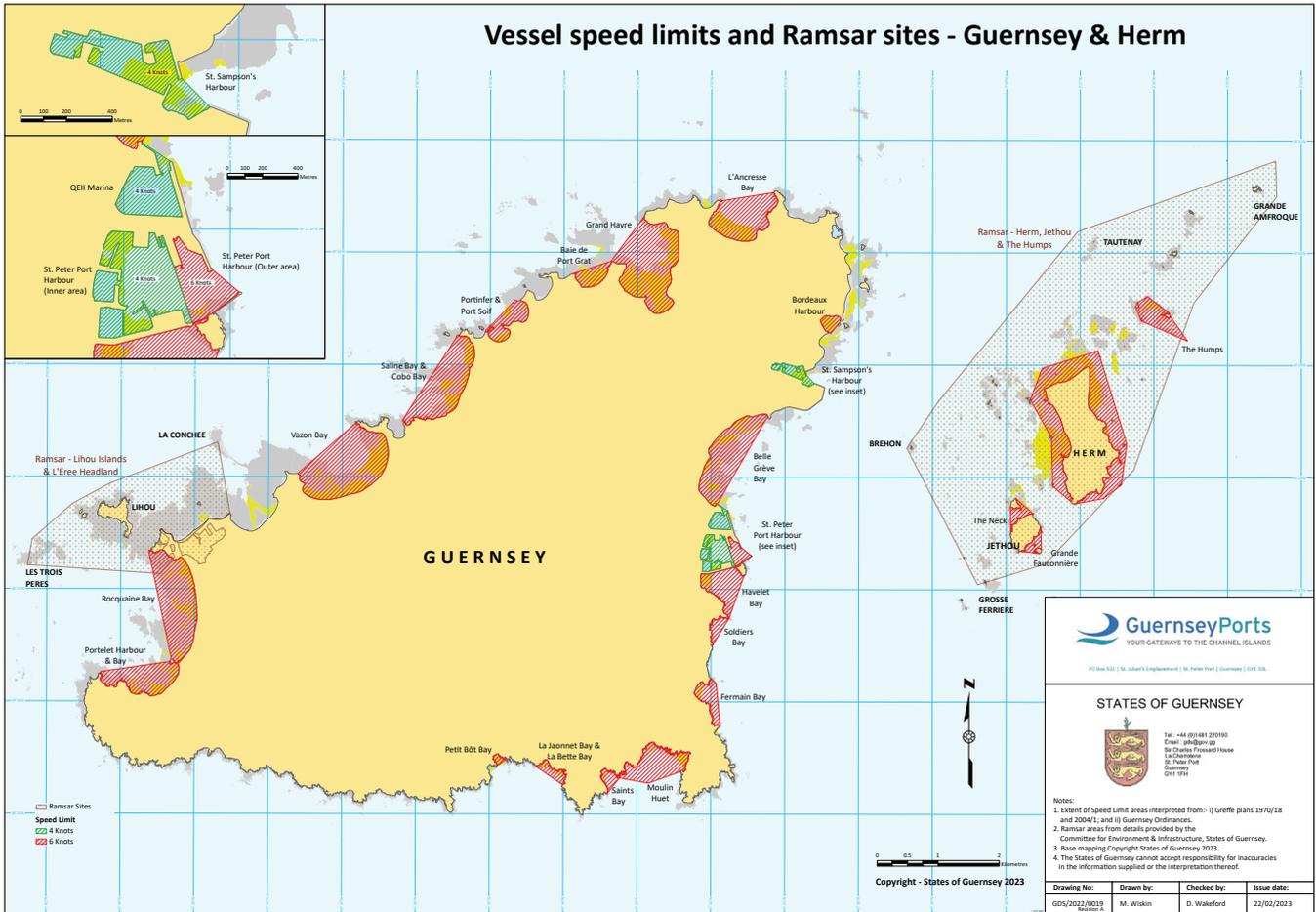


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Know your limits

Vessel speed limits and Ramsar Sites - Guernsey and Herm



Stay Sea Safe sticker scheme

Guernsey Coastguard continue their drive to ensure all islanders remain safe whilst using the sea for leisure activities, with the continuation of their Water Based Activity sticker scheme.

Owners of sea sports and leisure equipment are invited to collect identification stickers from the Guernsey Ports Customer service centre on the Albert Pier. All they need to do is complete a basic identification form. In return, they are issued with numbered stickers that are used to reference their labelled equipment. This will give Guernsey Coastguard the ability to contact the owner or their secondary contact to ensure they are safe and well or if required, commence search operations.

