



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: September 2019

Havengore Bridge Issue

The Following update was received from Mick Sharp Shoebury Watermans Association and RYA Rep for Southend Interclub Group.

With the recent long term failure of Havengore bridge and no short term solution, strong representation was made by myself, Ken Wickham representing CAYF regarding the impact on the recreational boating community and from Steve and Nigel on how business was being affected in Wakering and Suttons boat yards. It was acknowledged that good progress had been made on communicating the failures to mariners and that improvements had been made in signage, on site response, procurement of parts and improving maintenance skills. It was also acknowledged that there had been reliability improvements in the early part of the season. But the recent failure in July shows just how fragile things are.

We were introduced to a recently appointed Hydraulics Engineer who has been tasked to investigate, and recommend a design modification for a long term fix to the Hydraulic control unit that keeps failing. It was described that the unit is fine through the first stage of operation but is designed to go into a 'slow' function as the bridge nears closure and this is where it is failing.

The fix may not be completed in the near future and vessel owners should plan for the longer passage to and from the Crouch but keep alert to any changes in the bridge operational status.

We reiterated how the failures were impacting on recreational and commercial users and I stated that September/October is the time of year that vessel owners plan to make their way through the bridge for essential maintenance work and winter storage. We discussed the possibility of having a few weekends identified where the bridge could be operated with staff on site to attend to any failures but it seems that with the current fault this may not be possible.

Nicky Uden, QinetiQ's Communications officer, will keep me informed on progress and I ask that you let her know if you or anyone else representing your club wishes to receive latest updates directly in order that you can pass the latest info onto your membership.

Today I have passed on email contact details to Nicky for Doug MacEwen, Gary Gray and Cheryl Wright so that she can update her contacts list. I have copied her into this update so please forward her your email address if you would like the updates as soon as they are published.

I have also offered to be a point of contact for bridge keepers to call me out of hours should the bridge fail in future and I will endeavour to pass on this information to Interclub members where I can. The bridge keeper will still inform traditional stakeholders out of hours for radio broadcasts (PLA, Crouch Harbour Authority, Coastguard etc)

We do believe the QinetiQ team are doing their best to solve a difficult problem, and they have raised the effort required, but we now need a long term solution with a detailed implementation plan to secure this important navigational route.

Apologies for not being able to attend this months Interclub meeting but I hope this update will be useful.

Mick Sharp

Chairman Shoeburyness Waterman's Association

mob : 07548 568656

Oyster Layings in the River Roach

An application has been received by the CHA for oyster bags to be placed in the River Roach marked by withies . Could you please let one of the CAYF representative's have any comments you have by the 12th September. Apologies for the short time scale but we have only just received this"

Marine Planning Newsletter: September 2019

This issue includes the development of the Draft North West, North East, South West and South East Marine Plans, a report on your feedback at Iteration 3, how it has been used and completion of Explore Marine Plans that will replace the MIS tool in late September

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CAYF Officers representing your interests in 2019

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