

# Thames & Kennet Marina News



## Dates for your diary!

- The Marina office will be closed for the Christmas holidays from 5pm Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec – 9am Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2012, so don't forget to stock up on your electricity, diesel, gas and coal.

## Autumn 2011 Newsletter.....

Dear berth holder

I can't believe how fast the past twelve months have flown by since my first newsletter shortly after joining the crew here at Thames & Kennet Marina, and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for bearing with me while trying to remember everyone's names & boats.

Over the winter period we have quite a few improvements planned including a face lift for the toilets & showers, CCTV and some electrical system upgrades on the pontoons but more information on this later in the newsletter.

We also welcome a new member to the team here at the marina, Amanda is a familiar face around the marina and will be assisting with the ongoing pontoon cleaning and keeping the boats for sale regularly washed down.

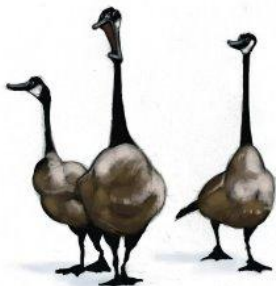
As you would have noticed the population of trolleys around the marina has increased, please can we ask that empty trolleys are returned for the next person to use and not left blocking pontoons.

If you have any comments on the Marina please don't hesitate to come and see me, or you can e-mail me directly at [lee.gibbons@tingdene.net](mailto:lee.gibbons@tingdene.net)

Kindest Regards,

Lee

## Canadian Geese.....



Forget the goose that left behind the golden egg.

Your average Canada goose leaves a pound of excrement on the ground every day instead, which as we all know is a real nuisance on the pontoons.

With these loosey gooseys on the rampage letting their bowels go every six to eight minutes according to some experts, it is an uphill battle for us even after cleaning pontoons the mess returns overnight.

So can we please ask everyone not to make these fouling foul too at home by feeding them, so we can try to keep on top of this problem.

Please remember all dogs must be kept on a lead within the Marina, especially on the pontoons.



## Chandlery Sale!

In addition to the Tingdene berth holders' loyalty discount of 5%, there will be an **additional 10% OFF** all purchases (from stock) in the chandlery made by 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2011.

(Excludes Gas, Coal, Logs & Diesel)

To help with the ever increasing costs of heating, we have managed to secure a supply of Taybrite smokeless briquettes at £8.50 per 20kg bag



## Boat Sales.....

Despite the tough economic conditions sales of narrowboats & widebeams are still strong, however we do need more good quality boats to sell, so if you are thinking of updating or you know someone who would like a boat please call into our office and pick up our brokerage list or brokerage pack and have a chat with Jo and Fred.

## Rodman news.....



The Southampton International Boat Show saw the launch of the open version of the Rodman Spirit 31, featuring the unique sliding transom seating arrangement used on the hard-top. The Rodman Spirit 31 is available with twin or single shaft drive diesels, after a quick measure at the show the open version (with a folding arch) would pass under Osney Bridge!



Also on display was the new Spirit 42 which had its UK launch at the show - beamy, light and airy but still robust, solid and with the great sea keeping that Rodman is well renowned for.

**Spain to the Arctic Circle** - A new Spirit 31 was recently handed over to her proud owner in the North Cape of Norway. The boat undertook a 3400mile journey by road, ferry and container ship, before being unloaded onto the docks in a village called Skjervoy some 200miles above the Arctic Circle.



## Bénéteau.....

Tingdene Boat Sales have been appointed agents for the Bénéteau range of power boats.



The BENETEAU story began more than a century ago on the quays of Croix-de-Vie in Vendée France, with Benjamin Bénéteau launching his first sailing trawler. From the first sardine boat over 120 years ago to the latest luxury cruisers, more than 36,000 BENETEAU power boats have sailed the seas of the globe.

## Polite reminder.....

Following a few incidents this summer can we please remind all berth holders to ensure your shore power cable is unplugged from the marina electricity bollards prior to departure.



Can we remind berth holders that all vehicles parked in the marina are required to be taxed; any abandoned untaxed vehicles are liable for removal.

Could we ask that any bicycles left around the marina are labeled, any unclaimed will be removed and disposed of at the end of November 2011.

## Four legged friends.....

The vast majority of dog owners are responsible and considerate however, there is still a small minority who allow their pets to foul on the grass areas without clearing it up. So if you are amongst this small minority please spare a thought for when we are cutting or strimming the grass.



## Berth holder party.....

We hope you all enjoyed the summer berth holder party as much as we all did, we are yet to set a date for next years but is more than likely to be the weekend after Henley Regatta if you would like to pencil it in your diary's. If you have any suggestions for next years event please let us know.



**NEW for 2012**

**Bénéteau Antares 8.80**

## Newsletter by E-Mail or Post?.....

Please help us be greener. If you would like your newsletters by e-mail in the future please e-mail us on the address below. Please mark your message "newsletter", thanks: [thameskennetmarina@tingdene.net](mailto:thameskennetmarina@tingdene.net)

## Winter maintenance.....



Over the winter period we will be giving all the toilets & showers a face lift. During these works it may be necessary to temporarily close these facilities, however any disruption will be as minimal as possible and will only affect one side at a time so there will always be fully functioning toilets & showers on site.

The more user friendly cardless electricity metering will be installed on J-pontoon over the coming months, once again we will endeavor to keep disruption to an absolute minimum. Any unused credit on your old style meter will be credited to the new system, so in the meantime please continue to use the card system as normal.

We are currently installing more shut-off & drain points on the water system for the pontoons, which will enable us to drain down and restore supply much quicker in the event of another big freeze this winter.

The bins on the south marina have been moved to the far side of the car park to free up additional parking spaces, we are also in the process of creating a new area for motorcycle parking with secure eye-bolt strong points. Could we ask that all motorcycle covers are kept secure & tidy.

Any recent visitors to the marina will have noticed that line painting is currently underway in the car parks, please make sure all vehicles are parked within the marked bays so we can continue uninterrupted with painting. We are looking at ways to increase car parking capacity during busy weekends.

Many more items are planned for this autumn/winter/spring, so for those berth holders that don't tend to visit their boats during the winter months hopefully you will have a pleasant surprise when you return next season.

And of course PONTOON CLEANING! With our new member of staff and some new equipment, pontoon cleaning will substantially increase in frequency.

And finally CCTV, due to some unforeseen maintenance issues earlier this year installation on the new security cameras was delayed. Rest assured, it WILL be installed this winter.

## Dinghies & tenders.....

As much as we like to see the younger users of the marina enjoying themselves afloat, there are constantly large craft moving around the marina so extreme care and supervision is required. Also being part of the Caversham Lakes Nature Reserve there is a wealth of wildlife nesting and living around the edges of the marina, which needs to be considered. We strongly advise that all children wear buoyancy aids and lifejackets when afloat and of course be supervised.

Also many dinghies & tenders are being left in the water obstructing vacant berths when we have visiting boats staying in the marina. We are looking into having dedicated dinghy bays, so if you wish to temporarily leave your tender in the water it will not be in the way of other berth holders.

## What's on at Boaters.....

Quiz night every other Thursday

Open mic night every other Tuesday

Knock-out pool competition opposite Thursday to quiz night

\*\*New menu – See notice board for details\*\*

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Help for Heroes Charity Night with live music!



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December – T&K Christmas party at Boaters



Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December – Celebrate the New Year at Boaters with live music!



**We offer up to**  
**15%**  
insurance discount for  
Tingdene Marinas  
berth holders  
(Proposal form available  
from Marina office)

## Marina Security.....

As you will all be aware there are now code locks on all showers & toilets, we appreciate this is yet another code to remember but should hopefully ensure these facilities are exclusively for berth holders' use outside of office hours.

Gate codes: These will continue to be changed weekly (every Wednesday), electronic key fobs are available for all berth holders from the Marina office.



The manual codes are available by calling the office on 0118 948 2911, alternatively if you send an email to [thameskennetmarina@tingdene.net](mailto:thameskennetmarina@tingdene.net) with "Gate Code" as the subject (include boat name, invoice name & address in the email) we can email you the new codes as they are changed.

## And finally.....

It is sadly again time to remind you all that the best way to get safely through the winter is to winterize your boat.

We cannot offer a guarantee that the electricity supply will be uninterrupted, so electric heaters are simply not enough to ensure that your pride and joy will be safe. We are also not able to check individual electric meters over the winter so please make sure that your meter is topped up so you don't have to worry about running out.

It is also a wise move to switch the water pumps off on your boat when you leave it even if you are using it on a regular basis. If a leak should occur it can pump the entire contents of the water tank into the boat itself. A very nasty surprise to return to! One item we cannot stress the importance of enough is to turn off your sea-cocks when the boat is unused over the winter period and inspect them when the thaw starts. During last year's Christmas holiday's one boat in the marina would have sunk if it was not for the quick response of marina staff due to a fractured pipe after the sea-cock.

All covers and canopies should be securely fastened and in good working order so they won't rip or come loose in a winter storm.

For those of you new to the marina it is important to remember that the pontoons can be a dangerous place in winter. Always keep to the middle of the pontoons and more importantly be careful of stepping on the metal plates as they get extremely slippery when icy. Salt is provided in the big black bins at the top of the ramps for your convenience. Another important point is our iron clad rule about boat movement when there is ice on the lake. **Under no circumstances can boats be moved in icy conditions.** A moving plate of ice can cause horrendous damage to many of our wooden and GRP boats, not to mention removing your own antifouling or blacking.

If conditions turn below zero over an extended period we will turn off the water on the pontoons so please try and remember to keep your water supply topped up if you are staying on your boat over Christmas. The same obviously goes for electricity and gas etc. Please make sure you have ample electricity cards or credits to tide you over during our Christmas break.

As per last year the office will be open for berth holders only for sales of electricity/diesel/gas/logs & coal between Christmas & the New Year on the following dates:

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 12 noon

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 12 noon