



Marina Mail

The Newsletter of PRESTON MARINA.

Pontoon Electricity

Our pontoon electrics are an ongoing challenge - this summer(!?) we have experienced more problems than usual, the rain playing its part. Several faults have been identified and these can be minimised in the future with the following precautions:

We need to reduce the number of tripped fuses to the switchgear system; each berth has a 16 amp **leisure supply** of electricity. We ask you to familiarise yourself with the amperage of the appliances you have on board. For example an electric kettle draws a massive 13 amps, a television around 12, a hair dryer 8.5, a fan heater 8.5, a toaster 3.5!! It doesn't take a scientist to work out that the system was not designed for this sort of use.

To calculate your own amperage just divide the watts used by the appliance by 230.

In addition we also ask berth holders to regularly check their electric cables for any damage and also that these cables are not left as a trip hazard on the pontoons. Please also report any electrical faults to the office as soon as possible, these reports are logged, and if necessary given to our electrical contractor.

Security

The good news is that our area is considered a 'Low crime area' by our local Police, however, they ask that you remain vigilant for any criminal activity, if you have any incidents to report please either pass them on to the Police (Tel. 01772 203203) or contact our office.

The police are now hosting regular P.A.C.T. meetings down on the docks and any of our berth holders are welcome to go – the details of the next meeting are available on the berth holders notice board.

Yard berth holders please would you help us keep the yard secure by ensuring anyone through the vehicle gate during the evening locks it behind them.

Nautical Glossary...

This issue, the term is "PILOTAGE" Definition..

"The art of getting lost in sight of land, as opposed to the distinct and far more complex science of navigation used to get lost in offshore waters."

RYA Courses

We are pleased to welcome new RYA courses to Preston Marina's Conference Suite.

Greg Norris (a local round the world yachtsman!) is the chief instructor for Scotsail who will be hosting the Day Skipper Theory and the Coastal/Yachtmaster Theory courses here, beginning in November.

Practical courses are also available; these take place at Largs during the summer months.



Notice Board

We think that it would be a good idea for our berth holders to have a designated notice board. This is now in position in the toilet/shower corridor. We will place any general messages or notices on here.

Berth holders may use this for their own correspondence. We don't even mind if you put your own low value free adverts here. These ads are for private sellers only.

We ask that No commercial ads or boat sales are placed on the board. Please include your Boat Name on the advert. We reserve the right to remove any unsuitable adverts immediately.

Berthholders' Chandlery Discount

This year we are extending our berth holders discount of 10% in the chandlery to include November.

Therefore from the beginning of November until the end February berth holders can receive 10% off many items in the chandlery; this excludes the usual - diesel, gas, charts, coffee shop and some sale items.

Just let the cashier know you are a berth holder during these months.

5 Star Coffee Shop!!

We are delighted with our Coffee Shop's new five star status. This is a relatively new initiative run by the Environmental Health Department; five Stars are awarded for excellent hygiene management and procedures.

We are amongst an elite few food outlets with this award, many well known restaurants and hotels only being awarded 2 or 3 stars.

Our Coffee Shop is about simple quality, each day we serve delicious home-made soup and freshly made scones amongst lots of other tasty treats.

Red Diesel

From the 1st November the rules and regulations for red diesel are changing. Duty on red diesel is currently charged at 9.69 pence per litre for all private pleasure craft and this will remain the same for red diesel purchased for domestic purposes (e.g. heating, generators etc.)

The duty on red diesel purchased for the propulsion of private pleasure craft will increase from Nov 1st to 50.35 pence per litre (an increase of 40.66 ppl)

Every time a supply is made, the private customer will be required to complete and sign a written declaration with regard to the proportion supplied that will be used for propulsion and the proportion that will be used for domestic purposes (expressed as a %).

Our diesel pump will show 2 prices, 1 with the full rate of duty for propulsion, and 1 with the lower duty for domestic usage. Your total bill will be calculated in the chandlery based upon the litres supplied and the proportions you declare.

More details about the above changes can be found on the HM Revenue & Customs website www.hmrc.gov.uk

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Thank you all for your continued support...