

Marina Mail

The Newsletter of PRESTON MARINA.

2012: A Year To Remember



Amanda, Jodie and Holly from Preston Marina at the Guild Celebrations. Below - "Preston Belle" takes to the streets. Photos: Peter Manning & Lesley Miller

In our last issue we told you 2012 was going to be a busy year—and we weren't kidding!

On top of the normal busy goings on here at Preston Marina we had the largest commercial traffic in the dock since the 1981 - a new 175 ton electrical transformer for a local power station brought in by a coaster—the 58 metre MV Swift. There was also more cockle offloading (although nothing like as much as in 2011) - but it was the year long Preston Guild celebrations (held every 20 years) which kept us busiest of all. With a record breaking (and sunny for once!) Guild Riversway Festival including Preston's official adoption of HMS Charger—with Preston's Guild Mayor and other dignitaries aboard, escorted into the dock by our own *Preston Belle*.

Preston Belle also turned a few heads as she made her way through Preston's city centre as part of the Guild Trades Procession, on the back of a Chris Miller's wagon - a familiar sight at every Preston Guild for over 150 years.

We are already looking forward to the next Guild in 2032!



HMS Charger's adoption by the city of Preston.

Watch a video of the 2012 Guild Festival on www.prestonmarina.co.uk



New Yard Gate

As part of our recent re-shuffle and tidy up of the boatyard—and thanks to the income generated from our involvement in the cockle harvests of the past two years – we are pleased to announce that we are getting a new fence and automatic gate for the boatyard.

This new feature will bring added security as well as improving the appearance of the entrance to the boatyard.

The new gate will be opened by berth-holders dialling a special (free) number from their mobile phones. The gates will only open if the system recognises the phone which dialled the number - so if the marina does not have a mobile phone number on file for you please get in touch with the office.

Those who do not have a mobile phone (are there really any of you out there who don't??) will be able to obtain a special electronic fob.

The new gate will be installed in May.



A palisade fence, yesterday.

They don't make 'em like they used to.

Since 2006 legislation has effectively meant that new small 2 stroke outboards have not been available to buy—so those in the market for a new small outboard since then can now only choose a 4 stroke engine.

Many of us who want a light weight engine which can be easily stowed away in a locker, is easy to lift down onto the dinghy and want a simple and reliable engine to live with are really missing the 2 strokes, which are getting harder and harder to come by. We are regularly asked to supply good quality used 2 stroke outboards.

This is why we are currently on a mission -

We will offer to buy any 2 stroke outboard under 10hp!

Do you have an engine that might interest us? Contact Steve on 01772 733595 info@prestonmarina.co.uk



General Notice Board

River access improving

It seems that Mother Nature is continuing to be kind to us in respect to navigation of the River Ribble.

We were pleased to report in 2010 that the former, marked shipping channel has naturally re-opened making access to and from the Ribble much easier than at any time since we opened in 1990.

Early signs are that now, 3 years later, the river is, if anything, continuing to get slightly deeper (we estimate, at the time of writing, around a couple of feet deeper than last year in places).

Belle Skippers?

Enjoy and good at boat handling?
Got some free time?

We are always looking for people to skipper **Preston Belle** on trips around the dock.

It's not a proper job but it's great fun for the right people.

Interested? Get in touch....

Pontoon Clear-Up

During the course of the Spring we will be doing some pontoon maintenance and cleaning.

We are asking for any items which may be lying on the pontoons to be stored on-board or off-site. Not only will this result in a huge improvement to the general ambience, it is also important for the health and safety aspects of the marina as well.

APPEAL TO THE HEART

Fund raising for an emergency defibrillator

A heart defibrillator is going to be made available at Preston Marina for all Marina users and potentially anyone who may need it in the immediate surrounding area. N.W. Ambulance in association with the British Heart Foundation are going to provide the defibrillator machine and training to any Marina users. They have asked us for a £300 donation which we feel sure we will be able to fund raise.

If someone has a heart attack a fast response is essential – "For every minute of delay the heart dies by 10%"

These machines are fantastic, we had a demonstration at our last marina staff first aid course, they are very simple and safe to use, the machine gives you clear step by step instructions and cannot activate unless the heart has failed – you are not putting the patient at risk but you could save their life!

To this end we have ordered the machine, it will be installed in the next few weeks, all berth holders are invited to an evening of training - to take place on Tuesday the 14th May at 7pm in the Marina Coffee Shop. The N.W. Ambulance and the British Heart Foundation will provide some Basic Lifesaving Support (B.L.S.) training and all participants will receive instruction on C.P.R., use of the defibrillator, and other life saving techniques - each participant will receive a certificate in B.L.S. Light refreshments will be available.

Hopefully you would not mind making a donation for this evening – all proceeds will go towards the £300 needed for the equipment – perhaps we will have a raffle too – prizes would be gratefully received.

If you don't want to come along to the evening perhaps you would still consider making a small donation, we hope we never need to use the machine, but it is piece of mind for all of us to know it is there and that there are folks around who are not afraid to use it.

Please let us know at reception or e-mail suzanne@prestonmarina.co.uk if you would like to come on the 14th May (7pm–9pm), unfortunately you cannot just turn up on the evening as we need exact numbers to ensure we have the correct ratio of trainers to participants.



£1 OFF

Any can of International yacht paint, varnish or antifouling from Preston Marina.

Only 1 voucher per customer.
Not transferable. Anyone trying to diddle us or being a clever clogs will be eaten.

Expires 31st May 2013



S.P.A.C.E.

In recent years, we at Preston Marina having been supporting a neighbouring charity, the S.P.A.C.E. Centre - a special centre for children with severe disabilities.

The centre made the news towards the end of last year when promised and much needed funds failed to appear.

So 2013 has started with accelerated fund raising efforts for the centre—which Preston Marina, as part of the S.O.S. Campaign (Save Our Space Centre), is at the heart of.

On January 3rd we organised "SPACE-AID", a day of concerts, raffles and auctions which featured performances from the likes of The Houghton Weavers and Stephen Bayliss - and in the course of that one day we managed to raise just over £5,000 for the centre - so a massive thank you to all of you who came along and did your bit!

There is still more to be done to help the S.P.A.C.E. Centre, and you can find out more at www.saveourspacecentre.org.uk



Hilary from SPACE and Sue from Preston Marina with The Houghton Weavers at SPACE-AID



The Houghton Weavers perform at SPACE-AID



NEW BERTH-HOLDERS CHANDLERY DISCOUNT SCHEME

We are making a little change to how we handle our berth-holders chandlery discount scheme.

Nothing has changed in terms of the discount we are offering - still 10% off the vast majority of items in stock - we are just going to be asking eligible berth-holders to help us by presenting a special card at the till.

From April 1st, Preston Marina berth-holders with a minimum of a 6 month berthing contract are invited to sign up for and collect a new "Preston Marina Customer Card" from the chandlery counter.

This means that when making a purchase, the card's barcode will be scanned and any eligible discounts will automatically be applied.

This will help the chandlery staff correctly identify who is entitled to the discount and hopefully avoid awkward moments at the till!



We also intend to introduce a Loyalty Scheme soon where spending in our chandlery will accumulate points which lead to further savings and opportunities.

Full terms and conditions which apply to this chandlery discount scheme can be collected in store or can be seen on our website.

www.prestonmarina.co.uk

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