

Falmouth Harbour Commissioners



Welcome!



I would like to welcome you to our October newsletter, after another busy summer season for Falmouth Harbour.

It was great to see so many people at our Public Meeting held at the Maritime Museum on October 3. We really do welcome the feedback on the role and performance of the organisation.

Like all businesses these days, we are always looking for ways of improving efficiency. In order to reduce printing, we plan to provide our newsletter by e-mail wherever possible. Customers will get the option when they next receive their invoices to continue to receive paper copies of the newsletter or have electronic copies e-mailed to them.

We hope that this will provide some savings and reduce our carbon footprint whilst still providing an effective way of delivering news.

Mark Sansom
Harbour Master

Red Arrows wow the crowds again!

CROWDS lined the streets of Falmouth as an estimated 30,000 people were treated to a breathtaking aerial display from the Red Arrows as part of Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week, thanks to sponsors FHC.

FHC Chairman David Ellis said, "The Red Arrows are always an awe-inspiring sight and we are delighted 30,000 people agreed with us and came out to cheer them on.

"This is the third year we have brought the Red Arrows to Falmouth and I think we can safely say they are now one of the highlights of Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week."

As well as sponsoring the Red Arrows FHC has played a major role in ensuring sailors and teams competing in events over the week long festival remain safe, both whilst out at sea and when moored within the harbour.



THANK YOU ...

... to the children of Falmouth and Penryn for taking part in our poster competition to celebrate the return of the Red Arrows this year.

The competition was a great success and we plan to make it an annual event. We had 73 entries and choosing just one winner proved tough!

The judges eventually picked a poster by 10-year-old James Drage-Hubert, a pupil at King Charles Primary School. James and his family joined FHC to watch the Red Arrows from a VIP area, and James met and had his photo taken with Red Arrows pilot Red 10.

FHC is committed to working closely with the community to make the most of these exciting opportunities, which we hope forms positive relationships for the future, while giving children the chance to learn about our role within the harbour and sea safety.

Port Masterplan consultation

EXCITING new proposals for the future of Falmouth Docks were unveiled to the public in March, starting with a public exhibition, which signalled a major step forward in the Port of Falmouth Development Initiative.

The public were urged to have their say on the Port's future during the four-week consultation process.

As well as economic benefits

and employment opportunities, the study also includes a co-ordinated approach on transport, power generation and addressing environmental impacts.

The initiative includes representatives from Cornwall Council, FHC, A&P Falmouth, Pendennis Shipyard, Falmouth Petroleum Ltd, South West of

England Regional Development Agency, Cornwall Development Company and the Government Office for the South West.

"The exhibition was an opportunity for the general public to see first-hand how crucial dredging a deep-water channel into Falmouth Harbour is to the entire future of the town."

David Ellis, FHC Chairman

FHC'S ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

FHC held its annual public meeting on October 3rd at the National Maritime Museum Cornwall.

More than 40 people attended the public meeting to hear feedback on the past year and plans for the year ahead.

The meeting, and the recently-published Annual Report, gave an overview of FHC's financial accounts, a summary of the Port of Falmouth Masterplan and an update on projects FHC has been working on with Falmouth Marine School.

The meeting was led by FHC Chairman, David Ellis, and included a presentation from Harbour Master, Captain Mark Sansom.

After the presentations the commissioners met and chatted to members of the public.

FHC Chairman, David Ellis said: "Our annual meeting is the best opportunity for the public to hear feedback on the business and ask any questions of us."

Full copies of the Annual Report are available to download from www.falmouthport.co.uk

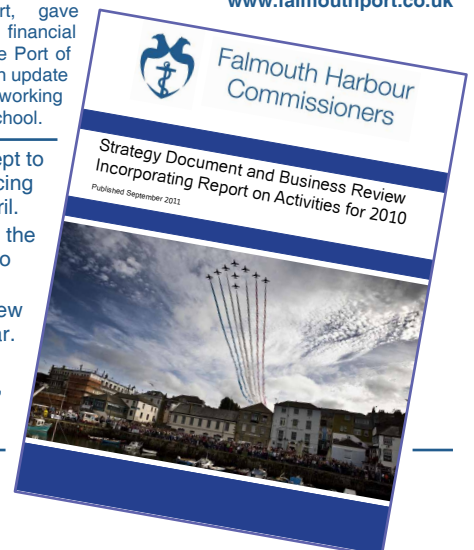


CREWS from the Falmouth Gig Club have swept to victory in the Men's and Women's world gig racing championships held on the Isles of Scilly in April.

The women stormed to victory in September in the Cornwall championships with the men hoping to achieve success this month.

FHC donated £1,000 towards the cost of the new gig, "Black Rock", which was launched last year.

The gig club encourages young people to join the sport where they learn to be part of a team, enjoy a fast-growing recreational sport and socially integrate.



NEWSLETTER

October 2011

FHC celebrate Arrow re-launch



FALMOUTH pilot boat Arrow, which was badly damaged by fire last summer, was re-launched in May, following a major repair operation, and FHC marked the end of work with a celebration at North Quay to thank the many parties that were involved in the repair work.

Work done to the 17m, 28-tonne vessel included removing and renewing engines, wiring, plumbing and hull insulation, as well as repairing areas of the hull which

were affected by the heat, and other modifications.

Falmouth Harbour Master Captain Mark Sansom said, "We are delighted to welcome the Arrow back into service and would like to extend a big thank you to all those who have worked so hard."

Above: Falmouth Harbour Commissioner Peter Fish (left) and Harbour Master Captain Mark Sansom celebrating the re-launch of the Arrow at North Quay, Falmouth.

STUDENTS ENTER THE DEN

DEGREE-LEVEL students at Falmouth Marine School recently got the chance to present their final year project proposals to FHC and academic staff at Falmouth Marine School.

Using a similar format to 'Dragons' Den', students studying marine-focussed foundation degrees pitched their project ideas to a panel of industry experts: Mark Sansom, Harbour Master, John Langan, Commissioner, Harriet Knowles, Maritime Sustainability Officer, and Falmouth Marine School academic staff Dr Claire Eatock and Trudy Russell MSc.

The projects, which are commissioned by FHC, will count towards the students' final grades for their degree-level courses and provide FHC with an overview of the environmental habitats in and around the Fal Estuary.



Falmouth tests the waves

FHC has begun an energy test site in Falmouth Bay to enable developers to cost-effectively trial wave energy devices in calm water with easy access to the shore, prior to linking up to the National Grid at Wave Hub.

The nursery test site, known as FabTest, gives developers a chance to undertake tests to investigate components, system concepts or full-scale devices in moderate sea conditions before deploying their devices in more energetic offshore seas at Wave Hub.

Wave Hub is a £42m project that has created the world's largest test

site for generating electricity from the power of waves, and is a giant socket on the seabed 10 miles off the coast of Hayle, connected to the national grid on shore by an underwater cable, and was installed last year.

Dr Lars Johanning from PRIMaRE, University of Exeter, said, "FabTest will bridge the gap from system integration and laboratory tests to the full-scale commercial deployments of marine energy devices."

FabTest is a partnership project between FHC, Wave Hub, University of Exeter, A&P Group, Cornwall Marine Network and Mojo Marine, all of whom would provide advice, expertise and support to the industry.



Falmouth welcomes Shipping Minister

SHIPPING Minister Mike Penning has backed proposals by FHC for the future of the port, which could create hundreds of jobs over the next five years and safeguard the local economy.

During a two-hour visit to Falmouth in April, Mr Penning was given a guided tour of the harbour onboard pilot boat Trelawney, and learned about the vital role the port plays in the Cornish economy.

David Ellis, Chairman of FHC, briefed the Minister on plans for the future, including the Port of Falmouth Development Initiative and FabTest.

Mr Penning said the port had his "full support". He said, "Coastal shipping and ports play a vital role in the economy and we need our ports operating to the best of their abilities.

"I've been out to see the area where the dredging is needed and it seems to me that this is very important for Falmouth. We need to protect jobs, create jobs and create growth."

Mr Ellis said: "I was delighted to welcome the Minister to Falmouth and

to have the opportunity to discuss the future of the port and the issues we are facing with him.

"What I made clear to the Minister is that the entire future of Falmouth as a thriving port hinges on the ability to dredge a deep water channel into



Above: (L-R) David Ellis, Chairman of FHC, Mike Penning, Shipping Minister and Sarah Newton, Falmouth and Truro MP.

the docks – not only to safeguard existing port functions but to develop businesses which need use of the port by larger vessels.

"This visit gave us the opportunity to highlight the environmental issues which are currently holding us back and the significant economic benefits the project would bring to Falmouth. We remain confident that the full potential of Falmouth Harbour can be unlocked."

Hello Holly . . .



Harriet Knowles (left) and Holly Latham checking test equipment

MARINE BIOLOGIST Holly Latham joined the FHC team in July, as the Recreational Boating Study Co-ordinator on a one-year partnership project joint-funded project by FHC, the Docks, Duchy, Cornwall Council, the Environment Agency and Natural England.

Holly's role is investigating the environmental impacts of recreational craft moorings and marinas. She has completed fieldwork over August and September at various locations around the estuary and will be analysing the results over the coming months.

The outcomes of Holly's work will identify the most sustainable ways for the recreational boating industry to develop in Falmouth.

Goodbye Will . . .

WILL DAVIES, Assistant Harbour Master in charge of operations, left us in August for pastures new. He is now employed by the University of Plymouth and is skipping their research vessel "Falcon Spirit",

Will joined us in 2008 from a career in the Royal Navy and Yacht Management.

We wish him well for the future!



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