



# St Helier Boat Owners Association

St Helier Boatowners Association Newsletter

Issue #1 – June 2025

## From the Chair

### "Back on Deck – Reconnecting, Representing, Reporting"

"It's been a while — but we're pleased to relaunch the StHBOA newsletter as a quarterly update for all our members. A lot has happened in local maritime policy, and we're more committed than ever to ensuring that the concerns of private boatowners are not just heard but acted on.

This newsletter will keep you informed of policy developments, our ongoing dialogue with the Harbours Authority, and how you can help shape the future of boating in St Helier. Welcome aboard!"

Phil James — Chair, StHBOA

## Harbour watch – What We're Tracking

### • **Parking Issues – Positive Progress**

Following our discussions with the Harbour authorities, changes to **South Pier** parking have now been implemented — and we're pleased to report that your feedback helped shape the outcome.

Key improvements include:

- Restrictions now apply Monday to Friday only (no weekend limits)
- Two hours of free parking on the South Pier entry road
- Two new designated unloading spaces for St Helier Marina users.

We believe these changes strike a fair balance and are already making access easier for boatowners. Thanks to all members who contributed views during the consultation — it made a difference.

Other issues that we have raised concerning parking are:

Town Marina car park – The bay markings are now very faded and badly need repainting. We've asked for this to be addressed to improve access and avoid confusion.

We've also raised concerns that the **two unloading bays at Town Marina have frequently been blocked by Ports vehicles** — especially during the Boat Show, when access was already limited. This rather defeats the purpose of having designated unloading areas, and we've asked that this be reviewed to ensure they remain usable by berth holders.

South Pier access during the Boat Show – We've requested that St Helier Marina berth holders be granted free parking on South Pier for the duration of the annual Boat Show, given the usual disruption and loss of access during the event.

We have asked that the exit barrier at La Collette Marina is changed in order to avoid anyone using the parking facility, by waving at the magic eye.

We'll keep members updated on progress — and thank you to those who've flagged these issues.




- **Dinghy Discipline: A Little Line Goes a Long Way**

If you're moored in the drying harbours, here's a gentle but firm reminder to show your dinghy a little love — and your fellow boatowners a bit of space:

Please **leave a minimum of three metres of line** when mooring your dinghy.

At present, **many dinghies are tied with very short lines**, making it difficult — and sometimes impossible — for others to reach their own.

**Three metres is not just good manners — it is a requirement** to ensure safe and fair access for all. We've asked the Harbour authorities to consider putting up signs on the dinghy pontoons to remind everyone of these simple courtesies and rules. But in the meantime, let's help each other out:

-  Minimum 3m of line
-  Bail out regularly
-  Be mindful of space and access

A little slack makes a big difference.

- **Caution: Slippery Granite Steps**

In light of the serious accident involving a fall on the granite steps around the harbours, we have asked for assurances from Harbours regarding improved cleaning. These steps silt up quickly and sea growth returns rapidly, especially in warmer months.

Please take extra care when using them — especially in wet conditions or at low tide.

We've suggested to Harbours that clear signage be installed to warn users of the potential hazard. In the meantime, stay safe and help spread the word.

- **Friendly Reminder: Dogs on Pontoons, Elizabeth Marina**

We're lucky that Harbours allows us to bring our four-legged friends onto the pontoons in Elizabeth Marina — but this is a concession, not a given. To help ensure this continues:

**Keep dogs on a lead at all times** while on the pontoons

**Please clean up after them** — nobody wants to step in a mess

And kindly **steer them away from mooring lines** (no one wants a soggy rope surprise)

Let's all do our bit to keep the pontoons pleasant for everyone — and to avoid giving Harbours a reason to review this privilege.

## **Jersey Joins TransEurope Marinas**

## **Relaunch Feedback**

We want this newsletter to reflect the issues that matter to you. Tell us:

- What topics you'd like regular updates on
- Suggestions for features (e.g., safety tips, member Q&As, spotlight stories)

 **Share your thoughts at:** [www.sthboa.org/Contact.html](http://www.sthboa.org/Contact.html)

Your feedback helps shape the content — and the conversation.

**By the way**, — we're currently looking for an **Honorary Treasurer** to join our small committee. It's **not an onerous task**, just a helping hand to look after our **unaudited accounts**. If you're interested or know someone who might be, do get in touch.

## **Final Thoughts**

We may not all own the biggest boats — but together, **we're the strongest voice in the harbour.**