



St Helier Boat Owners Association

St Helier Boatowners Association Newsletter

Issue #2 – September 2025



StHBOA Newsletter – Issue #2, September 2025

From the Chair

We hope you've all enjoyed a safe and happy summer afloat. Like many of you, your committee has been out on the water, making the most of the season and exploring further afield. Inevitably, that has meant a natural lull in Association business during the height of summer.

That said, our time afloat hasn't been without challenges. Several committee members have experienced difficulties navigating French customs formalities, and we know from conversations with you that we are not alone in this.

Now that autumn is here, we're back at the helm — ready to pick up the pace, monitor harbour matters, and raise these issues directly with both the Jersey and French authorities on your behalf.

Phil James — Chair, StHBOA

🚢 Customs Formalities: Visiting France

Many members continue to raise concerns about customs procedures when visiting France, particularly the difference between Ports of First Entry (PPF) and non-PPF ports.

- Procedures for entering a non-PPF port are relatively clear.
- Confusion arises if you first register at a non-PPF port and later enter a PPF port on the same trip. We've heard reports that skippers are then required to re-register both entry and exit — something not explained in the current guidance.

Looking ahead, new biometric requirements are expected. Since facilities will only be available at PPF ports, it's unclear how this will affect Jersey boats visiting non-PPF ports, or those cruising between different types of ports.

The StHBOA will continue to press both Jersey and French authorities for clear, practical guidance, and we will keep you updated.

We are also aware that customs forms for non-PPF ports are currently not editable. An editable version will shortly be made available via our website.

🚣 St Helier Port Access – Delays for Pleasure Vessels

We have followed up on concerns about access delays with Ports of Jersey. They report that:

- The maximum red-light time recorded last May/June was 29 minutes.
- The average duration was 7 minutes 44 seconds.
- Instances over 15 minutes were *minimal*.

Your committee will be visiting the VTS room at Maritime House shortly to explore this further. If you have recent examples or additional information, please share them with us.

🚣 St Helier Harbours and Marinas Berthing Issues

We are reaching out to gather feedback regarding **berthing allocations** at Jersey's marinas and harbour. If you have experienced any problems — such as delays in being allocated a berth, lack of communication, or ongoing uncertainty around your berthing status — we would appreciate hearing from you. We are keen to understand:

- What type of berthing issue you've encountered
- How long you've been waiting for a berth (if applicable)
- Whether you've received any updates or communication from Ports of Jersey
- How this situation has affected your boating activity or plans

Your responses will help us build a clearer picture of the challenges members are facing and support any necessary discussions with the relevant authorities.

🚣 TransEurope Marinas

Don't forget to register at the Marina Office for **TransEurope Marinas** if you hold a berth in a Jersey marina. Several members have already taken advantage of the 50% discount this year — a great benefit not to be missed.

Feedback & Involvement

We want this newsletter to reflect the issues that matter most to you. Please 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 here: www.sthboa.org/Contact.html



Dates for Your Diary

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Joint Jersey Boatowners' Laying-Up Supper at the Pomme d'Or on 11th October. 😊