

Heartbeat of Hythe

Newsletter for members and volunteers of The Hythe Pier Heritage Association



August 2020 Issue No 6

Dear Members and Volunteers,

Our last AGM was held under strange circumstances with your participation being remote, and by email. Thank you for your involvement in this process and your understanding. It was essential that the AGM was held in a timely manner to ensure that HPHA complied with its own rules and those of the Financial Conduct Authority. We will organise a normal general meeting of HPHA as soon as advice and regulations allow.

The Board of Directors of HPHA has changed since the 2019 AGM, partially as a result of member voting at the 2020 AGM. It will consist of the following people at the next Board meeting:

1.	Tina Brown	Treasurer
2.	Allan Fairhead	Parish Council Appointee
3.	Jill Gower	Secretary
4.	Simon Lodge	Parish Council Appointee
5.	James Percy	Member
6.	Anthony Smith	Chair
7.	Elizabeth Smith	Member
8.	Matt Stone	Member
9.	Alan Titheridge	Member
10.	Phil Appleyard	co-opted external expert
11.	John Goddard	co-opted external expert

This information will shortly be updated on our website <http://hythepierha.org.uk> along with a current list of planned dates for Board meetings.

Best regards,

Anthony Smith

Our Community Working Together to bring our Heritage and History to life info@hythepierha.org.uk

Hythe Pier Heritage Association is a Charitable Community Benefits Society (Reg No 7708)

The Grove, 25 St Johns Street, Hythe SO45 6BZ

Carriage 4 Repair update

July 31, 2020 – Timber arrives



Timber arrives at the Men's Shed (Photos: Tina Brown)



Soft wood trial frame built early July (Photo Alan Titheridge)

August 3, 2020 – Carriage 4 in workshop



Both photos : Alan Titheridge

Carriage 4 Repair update (cont)

August 15 - 2020 Debris cleared, access available



All photographs – Alan Titheridge

An A – Z of Hythe Pier by Alan Titheridge

Part one A - D

A – ANNIE

On July 30, 1885, the schooner rigged collier **Annie** came into contact with the pier midway along the north side as she was making a course towards her berth at Hythe Quay moving parallel to the structure.

An investigation revealed that with the wind being fairly strong a slight miscalculation in the lowering of the sails brought about the collision. Major repair work was needed as five of the pier's cylindrical piles were either broken or carried away altogether.

B – BOATMEN

Before steamboats on the Hythe Ferry, boatmen plied the passage across to Southampton and other points along Southampton Water in sailing wherries, punts and rowboats. They were great characters and wily old salts but although licenced by the Southampton Harbour Board sometimes a very few would operate outside of the law. There were many spills and sadly a few drownings of both boatmen and /or passengers. As the steamers became more reliable their numbers dwindled, particularly following the opening of the pier in 1881. The operating of the pier and the steamers were linked and although the boatmen were not alienated, their patronage was not actively encouraged. The last licence was issued as recently as post WWII. Many Hythe families researching their history will find an ancestral boatmen.

An A – Z of Hythe Pier

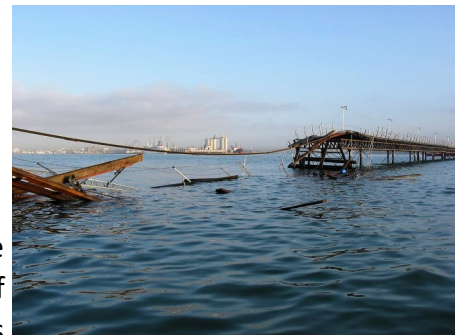
Part one A - D (cont)

C – CAMPAIGN

In October 2016, White Horse Ferries, then operator of the pier and ferry, announced it was unlikely to continue operations, throwing serious doubt on the future of the Hythe Ferry, Hythe Pier and the Hythe Pier Railway. The local community were up in arms and following a somewhat chaotic public meeting at the Fountain Court Hotel, the Hythe Pier Heritage Association was born. Four years later, now a registered community group with charitable status, the aim is the same; to restore Hythe Pier and its Guinness Record holding Railway to former glories. Fundraising had been constant and successful until the Covid19 epidemic curtailment but its enthusiasm is still very much alive and its campaign waiting to be unshackled. Hythe is a quaint waterside village, its pier and train a jewel waiting to be polished.

D – DONALD REDFORD

At just after 6.00 pm on Saturday November 1, 2003, the dredger **Donald Redford** slammed into the northern side of Hythe Pier just minutes after a full complement of passengers from Southampton had passed through either on foot or on the train. The following morning the full horror was plain for everyone to see. A gaping 80 feet hole in the pier made it totally unusable. News of the incident spread throughout the local community bringing residents out to see for themselves, the potential end of their iconic pier. Several piles were broken with latticework, decking and electrical cables hanging into the water. On Tuesday January 6, 2004, at 6.20 am the mooring ropes were slipped to allow the first ferry departure from Hythe Pier to Southampton's Town Quay in over two months. It had taken a monumental effort to put this calamity to right in such a short time.



Photos: Sath Naidoo

Exxon supports HPHA once again

We are delighted to inform you that Viv Carter has been successful in applying for an ExxonMobil Volunteer Involvement Programme (VIP) award on behalf of HPHA. The sum of £500 will pay for insurance to cover the activities of volunteers and two first aid kits for HPHA events.

The ExxonMobil VIP was set up to celebrate and recognise the contribution that ExxonMobil employees, Mobil retirees and their family members make to their local communities. It also highlights the importance ExxonMobil places on encouraging citizenship and community activity, and to raise the profile of volunteering as a valued activity. We are very grateful for their support.

This is the fifth year running that Viv has been awarded this grant and we are very grateful for all the hard work and hours she puts in to planning and organising events on behalf of HPHA.



Fundraising Update

Easyfunding

A huge THANKS to all the amazing supporters of Hythe Pier Heritage Association who shop through [#easyfundraising](#) We've just received £23-06 that was raised this year up until June! Please keep using it whenever you shop online - over 3,600 retailers send us FREE donations when you shop at no extra cost so it's FREE money for us!

If you haven't signed up yet, visit: <http://www.hythepierha.org.uk/donate/#easyfundraising>

Please share this post on your timeline so more people know about this EASY way to raised funds for Hythe Pier without costing you anything. Thank you.

Green Beauty Boosts funds

Just to let you know that Jill Gower, one of our members, has recently become an independent Tropic Ambassador and is donating any commission to HPHA. Tropic is a British skincare and cosmetics company, cruelty free, Vegan and ethically sourced. She recently raised just over £45 at her first Pamper party. Thankyou Jill.

Here is the link to her shop for you to have a browse and purchase should you wish.

<https://tropicskincare.com/pages/jillgower>

Please feel free to share.

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Board Meeting dates and procedures

Normally the Board is attended by all Board members and other non-Board members, volunteers or external experts as required to support agenda items.

With the arrival of a new Board it has been decided that Board meetings may also be attended on an irregular basis by members of HPHA as observers. Such attendance must be requested at least 7 days in advance of the meeting by contacting any Board member.

Observing members will be accommodated on a "best efforts" basis as limitations may be imposed upon us by technology considerations or Coronavirus regulations.

Currently all HPHA Board meetings are held using Microsoft Teams online technology. Your computing equipment will need to be compatible with this technology in order to become an observer of the Board meeting.

Monday, 28 September 2020

Thursday, 22 October 2020

Thursday, 19 November 2020

Thursday, 17 December 2020

Thursday, 28 January 2021

Thursday, 25 February 2021

Thursday, 25 March 2021

Thursday, 29 April 2021

Thursday, 27 May 2021

Thursday, 24 June 2021

Thursday, 29 July 2021