

Heartbeat of Hythe

Newsletter for members and volunteers of The Hythe Pier Heritage Association



June 2021 Issue No 12

Dear Members and Volunteers,

Welcome to another issue of Heartbeat.

It was such a delight to once again welcome volunteers and members down to the Pier for our first event in almost 18 months. More on 'Back on Track' event in this issue.

This month has also seen our second consecutive online AGM . Hopefully, next year we will once again be able to welcome you all to an in person meeting.

Finally, we would like to thank Elizabeth Smith for her contribution to the membership. This month saw her step down after serving as a Director on the Board for two years. Elizabeth remains a member and we look forward to her continued support .

Jill Gower



'Back on Track' 29th May .

Photo: Penny Wade

AGM news

Owing to current Government guidelines , our AGM was held online for the second year running, attended only by the Board of Directors.

Our current Board now consists of 6 Directors elected by the membership, Anthony Smith; Chair, Jill Gower; Secretary, Tina Brown; Treasurer , Alan Titheridge , Phil Appleyard and John Goddard, as well as 2 Directors nominated by Hythe and Dibden Parish Council, Simon Lodge and Allan Fairhead .

As previously announced, we would like to have the opportunity to meet Members to outline our plans and answer your questions. Therefore, we are organising an

"Open Morning" event, that we aim to hold at **1030h on Saturday, 25th September 2021** in Hythe. The location is yet to be confirmed.

During this event, information will be displayed about projects either completed or in the pipeline and several Directors will be on hand to answer your questions. Of course, our plans are dependent upon Government pandemic guidelines that may be in force at the time. I hope that the event can go ahead.

I look forward to meeting you at this event, but in the meantime please save the date.

Best regards,

Anthony Smith - Chair



Back on Track

Our official launch of the lovingly restored Carriage 4 on the 29th May, was a very proud moment for HPHA and all of those who were involved in the project.

This initially started back in early 2020 when the carriage was taken out of service by BFF and moved to the workshop. The projected cost of repair and restoration was however considerable. As one of HPHA's key purposes is to protect and restore the pier including its structures and railway, we undertook to take on this challenge but only after it was gifted to us by Lee Rayment of BFF.

At the same time, we were undertaking a project with Hythe Primary school, in which we highlighted the plight of these historic carriages. They then wrote 90 letters asking for financial support for the project to Beaulieu Beaufort Foundation, which were duly posted in a very large envelope. This was also followed up by a letter from HPHA. As a consequence we were awarded a grant for £10,000. The rest as they say is history.

The bulk of the work has been completed by the members of Hythe Shed (at the Pier) and the metalwork by engineers from BFF. The whole project has been ably led by Tina Brown .



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In addition, we held a naming ceremony for the tractor unit which has now been named 'Gerald Yorke', after the original consultant train engineer. We were honoured to welcome both Nigel Hasted and Sara Richardson, grandchildren of Gerald and Nigel kindly cut the ribbon .

Putting the tractor unit 'Gerald Yorke' back into action on 29th May .

Photos: Penny Wade



It was also great to once again have a merchandise stall at the entrance to the pier, ably managed by Chris Campbell, one of our new volunteers, Mary King and Bob Kelly.



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

Accountants support HPHA

Sometimes there are businesses and individuals who support the smooth running of HPHA but may remain out of the public eye. We feel it is important to acknowledge these people, hence highlighting in this issue the work performed for us by Kara Accountants.

Local accountants, Kara have supported our society since it's inception. We very much appreciate all the hours Jody Miles and his team put into preparing our accounts each year. They like to support local causes and Jody felt from the beginning that HPHA was exactly the kind of thing this support should extend to. Originally it was promised that Kara would provide up to £5,000 worth to help get the society up and running. Following this, they have helped with any accountancy queries and preparation of the annual accounts. Jody says "The relationship has worked well and we are proud to continue to support the HPHA"

We are very grateful to receive the benefit of your expertise and to work with such a generous and community minded group of people.
Thankyou KARA.

info@kara-accountants.net

News from Hythe Shed (at the pier)

by Allan Fairhead

Since the last newsletter our members at the Shed have been busy. Several members attended the naming ceremony and starts work on the second carriage. More to come on this in future months.

We took the panels and paint to the waiting room at the end of the pier. Now that the artist has finished the mural, we have fitted them in place .

Really great work and suggest everyone makes a point of going to see it.



Photo: Jill Gower

This month in History - June by Alan Titheridge

Second carriage for Hythe Pier Railway

Monday June 26, 1922

The second of two carriages for the shortly to be introduced tramway on Hythe Pier was dispatched from the Baguley Car Company of Burton-on-Trent. Baguley works order number 1048 arrived at Totton Railway Station two days before being forwarded on by road to Hythe. This carriage, (known as Carriage No.1), is at present in the Blue Funnel Ferries workshop at the pier being stripped back for restoration by HPHA in conjunction with the Shed (at the Pier).



Blue Funnel engineers manhandling Carriage no. 1 into the workshop (Photo Tina Brown)

Saturday June 30, 1883

The **South Hants Temperance Band** performed the following programme during the afternoon, on the pier at Hythe:-

Part I – Grand march, “Solferino” E Marie; overture, “L’Amour au Village” P Bouillon; valse, “Auf Immer” O Seydel; grand selection, “Gems of England” H Basquit; quadrille, “Le Joyeux Postillon” J Renyard.

Saturday June 1, 1945

LCP "Mary Celeste"

Bang! The Hythe Pier pontoon swayed giddily. Bumping against its side was the grey shape of an LCP (Landing Craft Personnel). The mate of the Hythe Ferry, Mr C Hosey, leapt aboard, expecting to find at the bottom of the craft, a man lying unconscious, perhaps overcome by engine fumes or injured.

But there was no one there. An empty boat.

Behind the craft there trailed a mooring rope. The Pier authorities contacted the port naval officials. Yes. They had lost a boat. Half an hour later the boat's owners came and claimed their missing craft.

Thursday June 15, 1978

First new Hythe Ferry boat for 31 years

The former Portsmouth ferry boat Southsea Queen arrives at Hythe Pier. Bought by the General Estates Company to replace the Hotspur II which had been sold to a Scottish concern, the Southern Queen was renamed Hythe Hotspur in September 1978.

She was sold by White Horse Ferries, which had taken over the service in 1994, in 1999.



*Southsea Queen,
later Hythe Hotspur
moored off the pier
(Photo Alan Titheridge)*

Dates for your diary

Rock the Pier	11th September
Members Open Morning	28th September

Board Meetings

Next meeting

Thursday 23rd September via TEAMS 7.30 PM