



# Heartbeat of Hythe

## Newsletter for members and volunteers



December 2021 Issue No 15

Dear Members and Volunteers,

The final newsletter of 2021 offers an opportunity to reflect on our year.

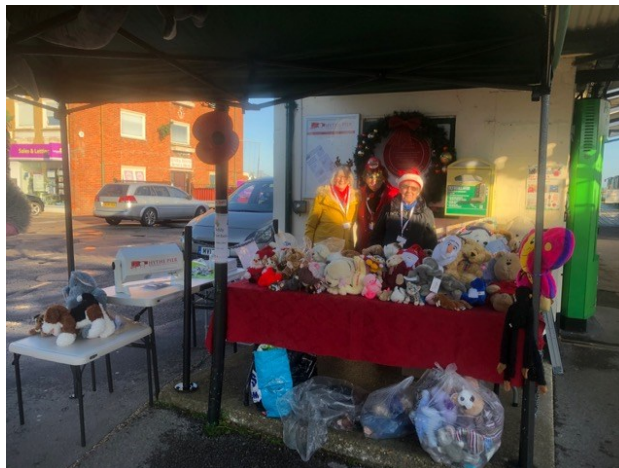
2021 brought back the welcome return of events and reuniting face to face with our trusty team of volunteers. After two consecutive AGM's which were held online, we were able to have an "in person" Open morning, courtesy of the Hythe Shed, where we shared project news with some of our members.

This year also saw our Pier and it's Victorian buildings given official recognition of their historic importance by being awarded Grade II listing by Historic England. Temporary protection works will hopefully do their job until such time funding has been secured to complete the restoration.

On behalf of all the Board Members, may I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2022.

Jill Gower

Secretary and Editor



*Photo courtesy of Tina Brown Our Mistletoe Fayre Stall*

## Thanks to the grant giving bodies

Anthony Smith

HPHA raises funds through a variety of means, with one of these being to apply for grants from grant giving bodies. This work is generally undertaken by the Grant Management Group within HPHA. We would like to recognise the organisations that have allocated grants to HPHA in 2021 and give you an overview of them.

**Beaulieu Beaufort Foundation (BBF)** gives local support for the aspiring individual and grass-roots community projects. BBF is supporting HPHA's restoration of Carriage 1 having previously supported the restoration of Carriage 4 that was completed earlier in 2021.

**Dibden Allotment Fund (DAF)** supports organisations operating within the Waterside area that support individuals living within the Parishes of Hythe, Dibden, Fawley & Marchwood. DAF supports restoration of Carriage 1 and indirectly, the work of Hythe Shed (at the pier).

**Hythe and Dibden Parish Council** operates a grants scheme for voluntary and non-profit making groups who are involved in community projects and initiatives that are of benefit to the communities in Hythe and Dibden. The grant was paid as a community grant and has been used to support the restoration of Carriage 1.

**Foyle Foundation (FF)** supports organisations operating in the United Kingdom, especially those working at grass roots and local community level, in any field, across a wide range of activities. FF are supporting HPHA

**New Forest Parks Authority (NFPA)** Sustainable Communities Fund has supported the restoration of Carriage 1. Since 2006 it has awarded £2.4m in grants to over 300 projects that help improve the sustainability of the National Park.

**Beaverbrook Foundation** has increasingly concentrated on supporting small charitable projects. The grant has been directed to restoration of Carriage 1.

## Thanks to the grant giving bodies (cont)

Other donors of larger amounts to HPHA in this year are:

**The Scratch Project** that sponsored Rock The Pier 2021

**The Fawley Show** who donated a share of the money raised to HPHA and two other organisations

**David Morris** who donated money from the sale of Hythe & Waterside people's calendars.

**Our thanks go to all of these organisations, and to you, for support throughout 2021.**

## Mistletoe FUNdraiser Tina Brown

Thank you Mary and all the ladies (I didn't get a chance to speak to everyone)... really appreciate everyone's efforts at The Mistletoe Fayre. Teddy Tombola was a great success. A brilliant total of £253 was raised and £36 on merchandise.



*Photo courtesy of Tina Brown*

### **A Note from the Treasurer ...**

A HUGE thank you to all the people of Hythe and surrounding area for filling our collection pots! Our volunteer Debbie Campbell does a fantastic job of distributing and collecting these pots for us and just a few days ago we have received over £360. Our collection pots are located in BeeBees, Lord Nelson, Hythe Ferry Ticket Office, Herald, The Post Office, Hays Travel, Homeborough House, Holbury Hardware, Dollond and Aitchison to name but a few.

Hays Travel of Totton called us recently asking for a donation pot as they have a lot of foreign currency gifted – we welcome all currency and old sterling too.

Tina Brown



### **Philpotts come up trumps**

Back in November, we treated all the volunteers who helped make Rock the Pier happen, to a fish and chip lunch. Needless to say, a good time was had by all. The weather stayed fine, so many were able to make use of the shop's outside area, giving plenty of space for those who preferred to eat indoors. Thankyou to both Callum and Stephanie for their hospitality.



## Restoring and rebuilding continues



The brilliant team at The Shed at The Pier continue to make progress on Carriage 1, our next train carriage to be restored. This picture shows complete new frames being made for one side of the carriage (not door side) where existing could not be salvaged. The Engineers at Blue Funnel Ferries are restoring the wheels and bogies along with making a new sub frame for this carriage, this should be ready for our wood working experts to begin the rebuild in 3-4 weeks.

It is amazing to see all these skilled craftsmen working so hard to bring another carriage back on track, a big thank you to all The Team!

Tina Brown (Project Manager)

## *This month in History - December* by Alan Titheridge

### **Friday December 31, 1880 - The new Hythe Pier**

Excitement was growing on New Year's Eve 1880, as the new Hythe Pier, that had been being built over the previous 18 months, would be officially opened for business the following day.

There is documentary evidence that the steamers had trialled the landing stages during the course of the build, but for the first time in the history using the Hythe Ferry would be from a guaranteed dry landing point.

Apart from a couple of months in 2003, Hythe Pier would be open to serve the public to this present day.



## Friday December 6, 1907 – Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany visits Hythe Pier

There was great excitement in Hythe as word circulated that Kaiser Wilhelm II had arrived at the pier by motor car during the late morning and proceeded to walk to the end to board a launch to take him to the German Royal Yacht Hohenzollern, that had been anchored off Netley.



Large crowds assembled at the pier entrance as it became clear that the German Emperor would return during the afternoon. As he walked back along the pier towards a waiting car, a group of school-children ran down the pier but were swiftly “put in order” before reaching the Royal party.

## Thursday December 22, 1977 – Building of New Hythe Ferry Boat stopped.

A new ferry boat for the Hythe Ferry at the early stages of construction was stopped when the shipbuilders Marine Services Ltd of Hythe went out of business. Workers were not paid and were to face Christmas on the dole.



General Estates Ltd, owners of the ferry service instead bought the Gosport ferry boat Southsea Queen the following summer and renamed her Hythe Hotspur.

## Friday December 17, 1999 – Hythe Pier Train, Record Breaker

Our iconic pier train received the accolade of an entry into the Guinness Book of Records for being “The oldest operating pier train”.

As we all know, next year we will celebrate the centenary of its entry into service.



## **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.

This a reminder 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.

The dates for the next year are as follows:

Thursday 27 January 2022

Thursday 24 February 2022

Thursday 31 March 2022

Thursday 28 April 2022

Thursday 26 May 2022

Thursday 30 June 2022

Thursday 28 July 2022

Thursday 29 September 2022