

ATYC NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2023

This is the ATYC Newsletter which will be sent out to Clubs on a regular basis. It can be used as an ATYC Club Noticeboard and can carry such items as a Club's major event or a short news story. Contributions should be sent to me. Happy reading and stay safe.

Mike Chambers

RYA Supports Gas Safety Week. Throughout Gas Safety Week (11 – 17 October) the RYA will be raising awareness of the importance of being gas safe aware whilst getting afloat. The annual campaign week raises awareness of the dangers of poorly maintained gas appliances, which can cause gas leaks, fires and explosions. The week also highlights the symptoms of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. The RYA will be focussing on a range of gas safety matters, including how to stay gas safe, the importance of fitting a CO alarm, and what to do should a gas leak be suspected.

(Eds Note – all of this is covered by the BSS examination but that only takes place every 4 years and see below!)

Boat Fire and Explosion. A woman was injured and a dog died following an explosion on a 30 ft motor boat moored in the Conway Marina. The incident occurred on 9 Sep and the boat eventually sank at its moorings despite efforts by the emergency crews to extinguish the fire. The explosion is believed to have been caused by gas but that is unconfirmed.

Calor Gas 3.9/4.5 Bottles Latest. Marina stocks of these bottles for replacement are all but finished and Calor now state that they will, subject to availability, continue to exchange and refill serviceable* 3.9kg propane and 4.5kg butane cylinders, phasing them out of supply over a longer time. There is a limited number of in service cylinders and this stock will be available in exchange for an empty cylinder and only at [Calor's Distribution Centres](#) – check Calor's website for exchange details.

EA to Remove Notification Facility. The EA have stated that as from 1 Sep they will no longer be issuing Harbour Master notices for emergency lock closures. They will instead publish information on their [River Thames: restrictions and closures - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) page under 'Navigation Issues'. To stay informed about any emergency lock closures, they suggest boaters subscribe to their restrictions and closures page by selecting 'Get emails about this page', found at the top of the page. This will ensure you receive an email detailing any updates about lock closures, including when they reopen.

Boveney Pump-out Repairs. Some of the £8 million expected to be spent on next winter's investment programme will be a redesign and refurbishment of the vandalised pump-out and toilet facilities at the Boveney Lock – these facilities have been unserviceable for some considerable time.

ATYC Members Meeting. The next ATYC members meeting will be a new format with just a few business and update matters followed by talk from an EA manager on Thames issues with a question and answer session. This will be followed by a social period with clubs interacting with each other. Tea and coffee and bar open. Friday 13th October at The Windsor Yacht Club with details being published on the web site shortly. Open to all club members with a 1930 hrs start.

2024 Ball. The Early Spring Ball 2024 will take place on Saturday 24th February at the Richmond Hill Hotel with drinks on arrival, a live band, an after dinner speaker and more for Just £65pp! Full details will be published on the web site soon.

2024 ATYC Rally. We are hoping to stage a rally over the August Bank Holiday and will make an announcement when matters are agreed.