



ATYC NEWSLETTER – MAY 2026

This is the ATYC Newsletter which will be sent out to Clubs on a regular basis for onward publication to all club members. 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

PLA Issue New Safety Bulletin. The PLA have issued a new Safety Bulletin entitled 'River Readiness: Pre-Departure Checks for Pleasure Vessels & Narrowboats' can be found here. notices@pla.co.uk. Most of the content is straight forward and followed by the majority of skippers.

New Mooring Rates at Marlow. Editor Mike Chambers writes 'The latest bombshell to boaters is the giant increase in mooring fees at the Higginson Park moorings in Marlow. Yes, they have been extensively renovated and now include electricity but is the increase justified – for example a 40 ft boat will now be paying £ 5 per **hour** to moor. The park and the moorings are not owned by the Council but by a charity, Higginson Park Trust, and they have subcontracted the operation and supervision of the moorings to The Little Green Boat Company. No doubt the new fees will hopefully deter any overstayers and any long narrow boats but with a 25 hr stay and an overnight mooring (£20) costing over £55 for a 40 footer it will likely deter many others too.'

The rates and how they are applied can be found at this link

https://www.thelittlegreenboatcompany.co.uk/marlow/higginson-park-moorings?fbclid=IwY2xjawRqm7ZleHRuA2FlbQIxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzkxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEenG7VMZZCeXTz35X1yAeaR98oSn4sGsSazthWhbHbJki3ohGof9FyEtuxVGc_aem_3BUgd4BfpMdmelKztprudQ&brid=YWdncwG0KR1Yalzz8wilSxlzzqto

ATYC Rally 2026 at TMYC The 2026 ATYC Rally is set to be a fantastic weekend, hosted by the Thames Motor Yacht Club in East Molesey, Surrey. With space for just 40 boats, early booking is strongly recommended to secure your place. You are also welcome to attend with or without your boat. If you're not bringing a boat—or if you're a TMYC member with a vessel

already on club moorings—simply choose the number of tickets you need under “Additional Rally Tickets.”

Saturday evening features a Hog Roast and live band playing through to 23:00, preceded by complimentary drinks to get the celebrations started. On Sunday morning, TMYC will be offering a club breakfast (Reserved here but paid for on the day). Afterwards, you’ll have the chance to enjoy the Hampton Court Food Festival with a private guided tour of the Palace at 10.30 or 12.00 midday (additional charge).

During the afternoon lawn games will be organised by Dennis Nissen. To round off the weekend, TMYC will be serving a delicious two-course dinner on Sunday evening.

To book your places either click

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/associationofthamesyachtclubs/2062881> or visit the ATYC website

Bell Weir Refurbishment. Work to refurbish the weir at the Bell Weir lock and weir complex has begun.

For more information on the project, please visit the EA asset engagement page - <https://engageenvironmentagency.uk.engagementhq.com/...>

PLB Registration Requirements. New registration requirements for Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) have now come into force (15 April 2026).

All existing and new PLBs carried on board UK-flagged vessels, hovercraft and mechanically propelled watercraft must now be registered.

These requirements bring PLBs in line with the registration rules that have applied to Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) for the past 26 years.

Owners can register their devices – free of charge – with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) via the MCA’s [beacon registry](#). When PLBs are discarded or change ownership, the new details must also be updated on the registry.

HM Coastguard can use the details supplied, such as emergency contacts, to gain crucial information to support rescue efforts and send the best resources to help.

False alarms can be traced more efficiently too, keeping rescue teams on readiness for real emergencies and avoiding unnecessary missions into potentially dangerous conditions.

Shepperton Marina Open Day. Shepperton Marina is throwing open its gates this summer. Join them on 27th June 2026 from 10am for a day packed with boats, craft stalls, great food, live music, a bouncy castle and plenty of family fun. This will also

give clubs an opportunity to recruit new members – contact the marina office for more information.