

ATYC NEWSLETTER – JULY 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

Bins To Go. The CRT have decided to remove some of the 500 litter and dog waste bins from its towpaths – this measure is expected to save the cash strapped Trust £500K a year it spends on emptying the bins. They hope to rely on the Countryside Code and expect the public to take their litter home with them!!

Alcohol Ban. A Broads based day hire boat company has banned alcohol on board its boats in an attempt ant-social behaviour. The firm does not ban boats stopping at pubs along the way but since the ban the number of incidents has significantly reduced – EA to note!

Thames Water Fines. Following the recent £3.33M fine for polluting 2 streams near Gatwick, between 2017 and 2023 Thames water have now been fined a total of £35.7M for pollution. No wonder they are in financial straits.

Kingston Pump Out Given the continuing problems with the pump out at Molesey Lock, skippers will, I am sure, be pleased to know that a pump out service is available at Turks Town End Pier, Queens Promenade at Kingston. This service costs £10 and must be pre-booked by calling 020 8546 2434.

MOB Statistics. Latest figures published by the Marine Accident and Investigation Branch (MAIB) revealed that between 2015 – 2023, 47% of reported man overboard incidents in UK waters from recreational boats ends in a fatality. Inland waterways saw 6 fatalities from 24 incidents. The MAIB and RYA are now urging recreational sailors to plan and prepare for man overboard incidents, and what steps a crew might take to recover the casualty successfully. *(Remember the ATYC competitions which often covered this!!)*

Funding Britain's Waterways. Britain's unique and well-loved network of canals and navigable rivers is deteriorating because of inadequate funding. At a time of unprecedented challenges caused by the climate emergency and high inflation, government is failing to respond. Fund Britain's Waterways (FBW), a coalition of organisations representing hundreds of thousands of users and supporters of inland waterways, is campaigning for national and local government to act now and protect the public benefit and natural capital of our waterways. For more information about the campaign, or to join the group, please visit the [Fund Britain's Waterways website](#).

And finally.... *It must be their mating season, as they all gather in the same place for seven days, buzz around expectedly, then disperse again to nest elsewhere. This extraordinary scene has yet to be properly filmed and discussed by David Attenborough.* What is the writer referring to? – answer - EA patrol boats at a certain regatta.