

Dear all,

I hope this newsletter finds you well despite this crazy COVID year. The committee are well aware of the difficult season it has been because of the restrictions and the financial impacts caused by them. So, some good news! The committee have agreed;

- a. That a 50% refund of mooring fees is appropriate for those members that did not launch. It is not a full refund because their moorings were serviced at some cost to the Branch.
- b. The Dinghy launch fee will be returned in full except where a member launched and used the facility, those that launched receive a refund of £25 which was the reduction agreed with WPNSA for the late launch.
- c. We have an agreement, in writing, with PHA, that the branch will receive a reduction. We had already paid the PHA fees for 2020 for those members that did not launch, they will receive a full refund on their fees.

These savings will be notified to you individually by the Treasurer soon.

Moorings.

Work has continued on the Moorings with the new Norfloat buoys being close to delivery although not planned to instal until next year and Rib servicing is being planned for winter. The committee have discussed the benefits of having our own rib and, on balance, thought to be more effective than trying to borrow from the Marina or WPSNA. Throughout the season we have done sub-letting of moorings and it has brought in much needed revenue.

There has been a report of a member's yacht being broken into ashore at WPNSA. Although nothing was taken it is suspected that someone has slept on board. Please ensure your security measures are adequate to protect your valuable asset.

Membership

At the recent meeting the committee supported the joining fee continue to be set at £60, that is £40 annual membership cost plus £20 new member cost. Anyone not renewing membership by the annual cut off date will be deemed to have left the branch and have to reapply, paying the new joiners fee of £60.

The membership secretary gets fairly regular enquiries regarding membership from boat owners looking for a cheap berth at Portland Marina. Whilst most are speculative and don't follow up after it's explained how the Branch operates a few are more promising and may lead to new members. However, it is apparent that existing members, when talking to the prospective members, are not giving the full picture regarding Branch membership, leading to false expectations on the part of potential members. There are quite clear requirements for membership of the Branch available and existing members should be aware of them.

Sailing

Although Covid 19 put paid to the formal cruising programme, several members set sail for the West Country after lockdown was lifted in early July, and we look forward to their reports in due course".

Social

Obviously the current restrictions have placed severe limitations on our social programme, we were glad to have fitted in our skittles night early. Kaz is currently developing her thoughts around a Zoom quiz night, watch this space!

The committee will continue to meet up via Zoom so please bring matters or issues concerning the Branch to the attention of a committee member.

Thank you for your continued support,

Peter Goss  
Portland RNSA Branch Captain