



Friends of Langstone Harbour Summer Newsletter 2025

Book launch at the sailing club

Langstone Sailing Club was the venue for the long-awaited launch of 'The Restless Coast' - the latest book by Roger Morgan Grenville - on the 12th June.

It was an open meeting organised by the Friends of Langstone Harbour in conjunction with the Clean Harbours Partnership and was well attended with representatives of many of the harbour stakeholders.



Roger outlined the problems confronting many coastal communities both through urban squeeze and climate change. The book has a chapter dedicated to the work of the Clean Harbour Partnership for which the Friends had considerable input.

Roger has agreed to offer copies of his book post free to our members from One Tree Books, Petersfield. [Click here to order one.](#)

Following Roger's talk, Rob Bailey - founder of the Clean Harbour Partnership - went on to discuss the impact this study, Operation Spotlight has made. The report was commissioned because of the concern about 'what is really in our harbour water'. Levels of e coli have been reaching levels above bathing standards for many years but there is little public knowledge about what else is there or its impact. Our study has thrown a "Spotlight" on the cocktail of pharmaceuticals that pass through humans after being partially digested, showing a direct link to sewage discharges. The report went onto receive extensive coverage by the BBC and global news outlets. More importantly politically, it was made a major issue in both local and national elections.

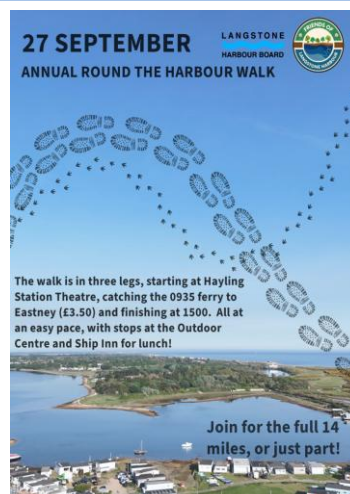
Rob, now deputy chair of the Langstone Harbour Board Advisory Committee, outlined some of the ambitious plans he has in mind for the harbour including an education centre and solar garden at Broadmarsh. There followed an active question and answer session during which questions were taken. These included the leeching of chemicals from landfill sites and the impact of the recycling of sewage by Southern Water.

A visit has been arranged to Budd's Farm Water Treatment Works, Havant, on Thursday 17th July at 2pm. It will be hosted by Nick Davis and Sam Underwood, both Senior Engagement Managers with Southern Water. As well as a visit around the site, it will be a useful opportunity to be briefed on the latest developments regarding the water recycling project - the plan to supply the Havant Reservoir with refined and treated sewage. We are limited on numbers so it is suggested that we do this by ballot with priority to those who have not attended before - please register your interest by contacting Heather White via email: flhmembership@gmail.com before 10th July.

Annual Round the Harbour Walk

The Annual Round the Harbour Walk is due to be held on Saturday 27th September.

Starting at the Hayling Station Car Park, Station Road, Hayling Island, to catch the 09:35 ferry to Eastney and finishing at 3pm, this is a 13-mile circular walk clockwise around the harbour with stops at the Outdoor Centre and the Ship Inn for lunch.



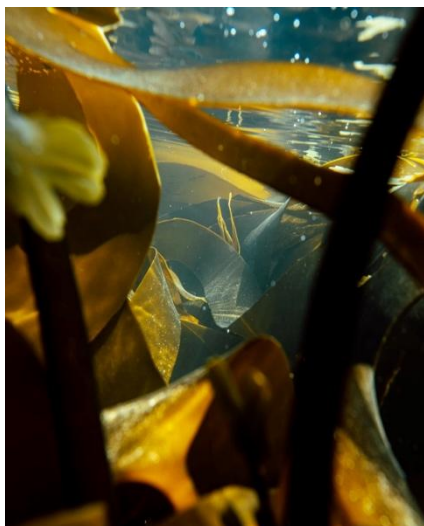
Website goes live

We have finally been able to get our desired domain name and our website is now live. It will be used as a communication portal – find it here: <https://www.friendsoflangstoneharbour.org/>

The Langstone Loop

The Langstone Loop is a project that the Friends have been helping to develop. Essentially, it is a reworking of the Langstone Shoreline Footpath with new QR-code signs and a supporting website. Under the scheme owners of the existing signage and interpretation boards will be encouraged to update much of the old signage.

Meg's Mutterings: Seaweed Aquaculture



Megan Roberts, Environment Officer for the Langstone Harbour Board (LHB), is working on an innovative project that will not only help absorb nutrients from the Harbour but also provide a safe spawning ground for many of the fish that enter our waters to breed; this will bring wider environmental benefits for the whole region. Indeed, the LHB are in the process of applying for a marine licence to establish a small-scale seaweed aquaculture site. It will extend for approximately two hectares on the western side of the Harbour, in a disused mooring area.

Unlike terrestrial farming, seaweed does not require fertilisers, pesticides, or freshwater. Instead, seaweed absorbs nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus directly from the surrounding water.

These nutrients, enter the harbour from agricultural run-off and wastewater discharges and are largely responsible for the large algae blooms that cover vast swathes of the mudflats. The blooms are particularly damaging to both marine life and the sea bed. The seaweed will ultimately oxygenate the water and improve overall marine water quality which in turn will help to support a healthier fish population, given that the harbour is utilised by fish species as a nursery, with juveniles spending several years before reaching commercial maturity or beginning their seasonal migration.

Like many coastal regions, Langstone suffers from nutrient loading and the primary goal of this project is to act as a bioremediation facility, helping to remove excess nutrients from the harbour. It is essentially a continuation of the EU-funded RaNTrans project. Meg is keen to emphasise that the LHB are committed to engaging with the local community and harbour users throughout this process, something that is fully endorsed by the Friends.

For more information contact Megan > environment @langstoneharbour.org.uk

FLH Volunteers

The Friends of Langstone Harbour's next volunteer project will be at the Eastern Road roundabout this Saturday, 28th June - meeting at the first Farlington Marshes car park at 10am. Equipment will be provided but please wear stout footwear.

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For more details of Operation Spotlight;

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412025001680>

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