



Friends of Langstone Harbour

February 2020 News

What is the future of Langstone Harbour?

It's so easy to take what we have today for granted and think it will last forever. It has been there a long time but most of us will be able to identify changes we have witnessed over the years. The environment and our harbour is now probably at greater risk than it has been for decades. The threats include global warming, plastic and development pressures.

There is a reminder below of a meeting when we have the opportunity to hear a local scientist talk to us about the first of these, global warming. His expertise is based on world wide studies but he will apply these to what we can expect in Langstone Harbour. Please come along. This topic is now getting close to the top of the agenda for governments and none of us will escape the consequences. Note the new, for us, venue.

Plastic is a subject that is also getting a lot of attention. Our litter picks in the harbour are not finding as much large unsightly litter as we used to but there is still lots of the small stuff which is what has the more significant impacts. Large pieces are cosmetically an issue but it's the little bits that get into the food chain and imperil the wildlife we cherish. Beaches in the artic Svalbard archipelago get covered with rubbish from Russia and in the Indian Ocean ecologists are trying to identify the sources of litter that are affecting turtles and other wildlife on island atolls like Aldabra

Locally the quest for the homes that are needed to house our growing population means sites like forty acres farm are now being built on in spite of considered objections.

SPRING MEETING

March 17th: Global Warming

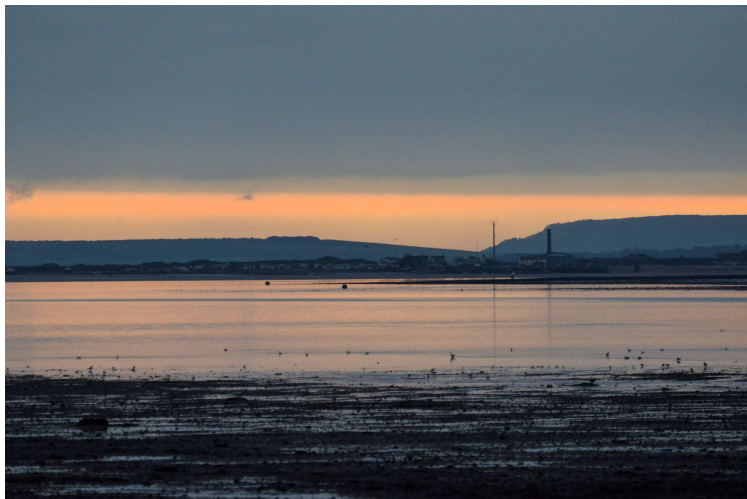
At 7.30 p.m. on 17th *Dr Nick Pepin*, a Reader in Climate Science in the School of the Environment, Geography & Geosciences at the University of Portsmouth will be giving an illustrated talk for the Friends of Langstone Harbour at the Drayton Centre 238 Havant Road, Drayton, Portsmouth PO6 1PA.

All are welcome. For further information contact John Goodspeed john@havantnature.net .

Friends of Langstone Harbour exists to be a voice along side others to influence local decisions. We value your support and may we encourage you to come to our meetings or work parties and let your voice be heard. We do also need new committee members.

Havant Borough Council (HBC) are undertaking a feasibility study to appraise options and develop outline designs for future coastal management at Langstone to reduce coastal flood and erosion risk to over 100 properties, as well as critical infrastructure including the A3023, the only road access to Hayling Island.

There is more information at
www.escp.org.uk/langstone.



Proposals for new fishing byelaws in Langstone Harbour.

The Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (SIFCA) is reviewing the need to control netting activity in estuaries and harbours, including Langstone Harbour so as to protect bass and other fish nurseries and migratory fish. On Langstone Harbour this is likely to mean permanent closure of the northern part of the harbour and main channels to netting and seasonal restrictions elsewhere. It is also proposed that all netting in the harbour will require the fisher to hold a valid permit and increases in the minimum size of fish that can be taken.

Brent Goose counts.

In December a survey of the Brents in our harbours found that 9.71% of the geese in the harbour were first year birds.

Solent oyster restoration project.

The Harbour Board have been invited to join the working group which meets to discuss the progress of the project to have 5 million native oysters in the wider Solent. The hope is that this will benefit local people, the environment and biodiversity.

Friends of Langstone Harbour Contacts

Chairman & Newsletter : John Goodspeed 22 Hilltop Crescent Cosham PO6 1BD

Phone 023 9222 1361 E mail: john@havantnature.net

Treasurer: Alan Thurbon 37 Lealand Road Drayton PO6 1LZ E Mail: alan@alanth.plus.com

Secretary: John Worley 23 Queens Keep, Clarence Parade Southsea PO5 3NX

Phone 023 9248 3217 E Mail: johnaworley@aol.com