



# News Letter

October 2021

It is six months since we last composed a news letter mainly because there has not been much to write about. However as restrictions are slowly reducing things are beginning to happen.

In the last few weeks we have joined in the Marine Conservation Society's nationwide 'Big Beach Clean' and held our annual round the harbour walk.

And we are beginning to plan future events which will be covered by separate articles in this letter including the Annual General meeting where we would be pleased to see you.

## The Dirty Corner, Saturday 23rd October, 9am



We will make a return visit at low tide to the south-west corner of Eastern Road roundabout, where the prevailing wind shepherds the floating litter.

Please meet in the first car-park for Farlington Marshes, next to the roundabout. Gloves and litter-pickers are provided, or you can bring your own. Wear good boots as the surface is sloping and usually has a lot of seaweed. Alternatively some litter will be accessible from the footpath, as it gets trapped by the vegetation (mostly red valerian) which grows between the concrete blocks of the sea wall.



### **Friends of Langstone Harbour Officers**

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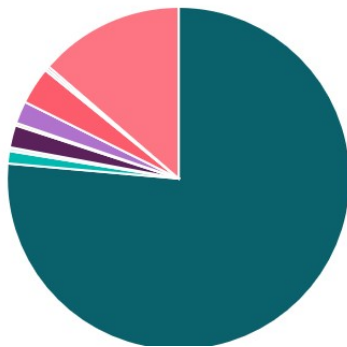
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The big Beach Clean—September 18th

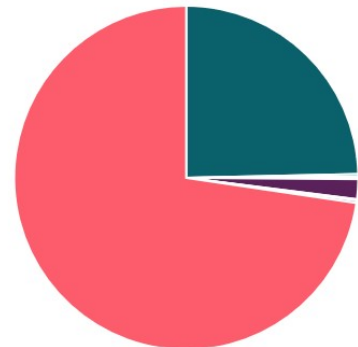
### Materials collected

- Plastic/Polystyrene
- Rubber
- Cloth
- Wood (machined)
- Metal
- Pottery/Ceramics
- Sanitary
- Medical
- Paper/Cardboard
- Glass



### Sources

- Public
- Fishing
- Shipping
- Sewage related debris
- Fly-tipped
- Medical
- Non-sourced



There were over 30 volunteers at our September litter pick on our adopted beach at Budds Farm Havant. We have collected litter here for over 20 years and it's pleasing to see that now we find a lot less than we used to.

We still picked up over 650 individual pieces on our 100m survey stretch of which 76% were plastic. A lot more came from the lengths of beach beyond the survey area.

One remarkable item was the wreck of a wooden chicken coup.

The weather was kind to us and it was good to meet some new people from as far away as Farnham and Southampton who could not find an organised litter pick nearer home than us.

As we started a kingfisher rested briefly on the sea wall.

We visit this beach every three months and our next visit is likely to be on News Year Day 2022



## Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 16th November**

**8 p.m. at St. Andrews Church Hall**

**Havant Road Farlington.**

Please put this date in your diary **NOW** and plan to be with us. The meeting will be followed by a short presentation on a harbour related topic

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### Oyster Restoration Update

By Louise MacCallum

The Blue Marine Foundation (BLUE) has progressed with its work to restore the native oyster - *Ostrea edulis* – to Langstone Harbour by securing a marine license from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to permit the work. A Local Notice to Mariners has been distributed to make regular users of Russells Lake aware of the first phase of the work – to deposit approximately 265 tons of cultch in a layer no deeper than 5cm using a hopper barge and excavator.

Delays in obtaining the marine license from the MMO have unfortunately meant that laying of oysters upon this cultch will now not be able to take place until the water temperature in Langstone Harbour has cooled after the summer. The oysters are being reared in Scotland and are sensitive to temperature shock meaning transporting them during warm weather would be likely to lead to high mortality.



The new mural on the Harbour Offices.

### Seabird Colony 2021

A combination of smaller spring tides reducing flooding in the seabird colony, along with variable weather discouraging human disturbance, resulted in Langstone Harbour's seabird colony having a successful breeding season during 2021. Mediterranean and black headed gulls each fledged considerably more chicks than last year, while common terns continue to breed successfully on the rafts at the Hayling oyster beds. Sandwich terns chose to relocate to Pagham Harbour this year (where some recent shingle recharge work has been carried out by the RSPB) where they have enjoyed a record breeding season.