

We'd like to thank you if you have supported CMBHA by renewing your membership for another year. This will be the last newsletter sent to people that haven't renewed membership; also access to member-only pages will be revoked at the end of May. It's still a bargain at only £10 and it's really easy to renew by credit/debit card at www.cmbha.net or even to set up a direct debit.

Disposal of 'out of date' marine flares

Your committee has received queries from members about the disposal of old marine flares. Returning flares has become more difficult recently because of the review date of the MCA's contract for managing this issue later this year and recent significant cost increases for commercial organisations to transport old flares.

NB 'Leisure boaters are responsible for the legal safe disposal of their old marine flares' and we have established that the following options are available and are in priority order:-

1. Take them back to the supplier if bought locally and not on-line.
2. Life raft service agents usually take them from service customers free and for a charge when brought in by non-customers.
3. Some ports and marinas have set up collection points
4. Although Coastguard Stations no longer take commercial vessel's flares for disposal, some still take them from leisure boaters but this does not include Holyhead at present because of a current significant storage issue.
5. There are specialist ordnance disposal companies, one of them Ramora UK have run amnesties at large marinas in conjunction with marina operators at various charges.

The committee has engaged with Holyhead Coastguard, Boatfolk, Conwy Harbour Authority, Yachtshop, RYA Cymru Wales and the other members of Conwy Sailing and Watersports Group.

We can report that Boatfolk and Yachtshop have agreed to hold a Safety day later this year together with Crewsaver which will include an amnesty for Conwy Marina berth holders to return out of date flares. Details of the proposal are to be decided and will be announced as soon as they are available.

In the meantime CMBHA would advise any berth holder who is having a liferaft serviced or purchasing flares from a local chandlery in the near future to ask the supplier to take your old flares free of charge.

Ofcom new requirements

If you have an onboard licensed radio, you will have received a communication from Ofcom with respect to changes to licence conditions and additional requirements placed on the licence-holder to ensure that members of the public are not exposed to EMF emissions above the specified general public limits. The communication from Ofcom provides links to an EMF calculator that you can use to satisfy yourself that your equipment meets the regulations (and it would be worth keeping a paper copy of the calculator outputs together with your licence on the boat). For further information, see the guidance provided on the RYA website - <https://www.rya.org.uk/knowledge/regulations/emf-compliance-and-enforcement>.

Conwy River Festival 2021

The racing in the harbour and in the bay will be on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th July. All sailing boats are welcome. All boats, sailing and power are welcome to participate in the La La Rally from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th July. This has traditionally been a cruise from Conwy to Caernarfon, but

can change to take into account the weather and other circumstances. More information can be found on www.conwyriverfestival.org and entries will open on Saturday 12th June.

We won't tempt fate by publishing a forecast for the spring bank holiday, but we do hope to see you around the marina.

Best regards,

Roger Millward
Chairman CMBHA
on behalf of your committee