

Bridport (West Bay) & Lyme Regis Harbours Report

Harbours Advisory Committee
25th September 2024



James Radcliffe

Bridport (West Bay) and Lyme Regis Harbour Master

Bridport Harbour Statistics as of 1st September 2024

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24 (Sept 23)	2024/25 (Sept 24)	Against Previous Year Profile
Season Tickets	74	85	82	85	85	66	-22%
Single Launches	504	525	489	404	298	256	-14%
Visiting Boats Nights	67	167	157	163	132	132	0%
Boat Lifts	£7715	£9,033	£11,098	£7,785	£2,685.00	£4,417.00	64%
Quay Side Parking	£5,617	£9,763	£8,478	£10,024	£6,753.71	£10,588.58	56.7%
Shop	£15,943	£37,799	£26,278.66	£17,740	£9,337.94	£10,797.17	15.6%
Diving Air Fills	£13,006	£14,134	£28,239	£23,134	£14,256.23	£18,768.32	31.65%
Waiting List – Leisure	31	37	17	9	24	21	-12.5%
Commercial	6	6	6	7	6	8	33%
Leisure Moorings (out of 137)	139	124	124	110	132	122	-7.5%
Commercial Moorings (out of 26)	24	26	23	21	18	15	-16.5%

The season tickets, single launches and visiting boat nights all represent the season with the weather pattern we have experienced this year.

Boat lifts seem high, but this is down to the timing of when boats went in.

Quayside parking has seen an increase with a higher number of permits being sold and the parking area being open to all harbour users.

Diving air fills remain well used and have also when weather has allowed it seen an increase in dive clubs using the area again.

Mooring occupancy is currently 89% for private and 42% for commercial.

Applications to join the waiting lists are continuously being received and we are currently actively going through the list offering moorings ready for next season.

Lyme Regis Harbour Statistics as of 1st September 2024

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24 (Sept 23)	2024/25 (Sept 24)	Against Previous Year Profile
Season Tickets	54	61	79	78	78	51	-34%
Single Launches	213	211	249	159	121	146	20.66%
Visiting Boats Nights	185	375	412	313	178	137	-23%
Boat Lifts	£7450	£14,722	£10,231	£11,341	£4,815.00	£5,130.00	6.5%
Quay Side Parking	£4828	£15,535	£21,827	£21,541	£9,054.33	£15,523.05	71.44%
Shop (New July 2021)		£6,626	£8753	£11,772	£4,865.12	£6,280.72	29%
Waiting List – Leisure	24	32	20	14	23	20	-13%
Commercial	11	11	11	09	09	09	0%
Leisure Moorings (out of 209)	193	195	195	158	195	172	-11.5%
Commercial Moorings (out of 35)	34	35	35	30	34	31	-8.8%

The stats for Lyme Regis are like Bridport with low season tickets and overnight stays for the same reason of poor weather. Single launches may seem higher, this reflects the season tickets being lower.

Boat lifts are comparable to last year.

Quayside parking has seen a large increase, this is because the ANPR system was operational from the start of the season.

The compounds that were previously leased to Fishermen and Traders associations remain full and with additional parking being made available on completion of the storage building 35k can be added to the above figure.

Moorings allocation is down compared to this time last year but up on year end, this is a very similar picture to Bridport and many other harbours around the Southwest, although as with Bridport, we are having requests for moorings all the time so are hoping the picture will improve for the 2025 season.

Moorings occupancy is 82% for private and 88.57% for commercial.

Staff Training and Competency

- Planned Courses
 - Day Skipper
 - First Aid
 - Power Boat level 2
 - MCA Beach Master's Course

Harbour Consultative Group

Both HCG groups are due to meet in October and the minutes from these will be reported to the next Committee in December.

Harbour Revision Order (HRO)

- No further update, still waiting for response from MMO.

Harbour Works

Lyme Regis

Harbour storage building



The Harbour store is near completion, with the building works looking unlikely to be finished in time for the school holidays the decision was made for the contractors not to be on site during the 6 weeks of the summer holidays. They left site at the end of July and returned to continue the external groundworks on 2nd September.

The overall completion is expected to be the end of September.

We did however take partial occupancy of the store in July allowing us to vacate the storage containers that were situated on the slipway so we could remove these in time for the main season.

Bridport Harbour

At Bridport we are looking to resume the timber pile replacement starting in the East Basin during this winter.

The timber piles will as the previous ones were be purchased from Bournemouth Council and stored locally while fitted over the next 2-3 years.

Being able to purchase the piles from Bournemouth is a great saving for the harbour as they are a fraction of the price of new piles and still have long life left in them.

Both Harbours Attended the Melplash Show

In August we attended the Melplash Show to promote Harbour services and display our shop goods, although we didn't have the most ideal position in the show we still interacted with current and possible future harbour users and managed to sell shop items. It's given us an insight into the potential of the show where we plan to return in 2025.





Flower Planters

The Harbour Staff have also been busy making planters which you can see lined up in the below picture just after being finished. They are now positioned around the harbour area with a plan to produce more over the winter ready for next season.



Accidents and Incidents / PMSC Issues

At Bridport a vessel's anchor became caught on the timber whaling on high tide and as the tide dropped the vessel remained caught on the timber causing it to sink. The vessel was recovered by harbour staff.

Also, at Bridport while launching a boat on the slipway a car lost traction on its back wheels which caused it to slide into the harbour, harbour staff assisted the owner to get the driver out of the vehicle and once they checked everyone was ok, they then recovered the vehicle and trailer. Daily checks are made of all surfaces and walkways which include the slipways and steps, and these checks highlight when cleaning and maintenance is required, the slipway was only pressure washed on the previous day.

Aids to Navigation

Trinity House visited in July and all aids to navigation were all found to be in good order, availability was recorded at 99.3% with a target of 97%.

Maritime and Local Events

A full list of a events can be seen below with more event information on our harbour websites.

Bridport

- West Bay Days are planning to hold all their events.
 - Pirates Day 26th May
 - West Bay Day 4th August
 - Bonfire By the Beach 26th October
- OMRA Model Boat Racing 15th – 16th June **Partially cancelled due to weather**
- Gig Regatta 29th June
- Power Boat Racing 5th – 7th July **Partially cancelled due to weather**
- RNLI Raft Race 25th July
- Yeovil Freewheelers (YFW) Blood Bikes Charity Ride 8th September
- Boxing Day swim

Lyme Regis

- RNLI Blessing of the Boats 5th May
- Gig Club Master's Regatta 19th May
- RNLI Lifeboat week 27th July – 2nd August
- LRSC Regatta 3rd – 4th August
- Carnival week 2nd – 10th August
- ~~Gig Club Open Regatta 10th August~~ **Cancelled due to weather**
- Lyme Splash Water Polo Championship 24th – 25th August
- Lyme Splash Swim 8th September
- Firework and Bonfire Night 2nd November
- New Years Day Swim