



Project Kraken Newsletter

Strengthening our borders

Crime & Counter Terrorist Strategy



March 2014

Protecting the waters of the Solent

MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

CLIMATE CHANGE TO OUR NORMAL DUTIES

With the recent storms, the Marine Unit has been tested in more ways than one. Along with daily battling the elements to go out and patrol the water we have also been drafted in to assist with the flood relief effort in coastal areas.



On Friday 14th February the Met office issued a threat to life flood warning for Keyhaven and Lymington with tidal surges predicted to flood the quayside and coastal roads. Five of us (who had started at 0700) were kept on duty and moved to the area in preparation.

We started by sandbagging houses along Lymington quay and evacuating people ready for the worst conditions which were predicted to occur between 2100-2300.

At 2030 we were scrambled to get kitted up and go to the Marina Café in Milford-on-Sea near Hurst Castle where a group of 32 people were trapped. Initial reports were that the wind and tide were so strong, shingle had been thrown through the air and smashed all the ground and first floor windows and the people were hiding in a back room upstairs - a rescue attempt had already been stopped by the weather and more resources were needed.

4 of us together with 6 guys from Hampshire Police Force Support Team, 2 members of the coastguard and 2 officers from the fire service got into an army

truck and were driven to the café to help the diners. No amount of time out on the boat could have prepared us for the weather we experienced - every few seconds the canvas side of the truck was battered with a hail of stones and spray so powerful that afterwards, Police Chief Inspector Gary Cooper likened the conditions to being "under fire".

The driver's window was smashed en route and he had to stop and drop 6 of us off to go to the front of the truck and move a boulder the size of an arm chair out of the road which by now was a foot deep in shingle and 2-3 feet deep with fast running water. Cars had either been washed together blocking other sections of the road or washed into a nearby lake - it was like a disaster film set. PC Kerry Murray said later "it was by far the most extreme storm I have ever experienced - it was phenomenal".



We eventually got to the café and made two trips to get everyone out safely back to a local leisure centre where a triage centre had been prepared. It was great to lead such an exciting and effective joint agency operation. At around 0300, there were some very welcome beds relocated at our respective houses but not much sleep was had after the night's excitement - poor old Dave and Billy were back in the next morning but Sarge gave them a lie in!

Pictures courtesy of Metro.co.uk

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Crime Review

January 2014

As a Marine Unit within our Force we monitor all reports that come in to see if we can assist with any investigations and to ensure we are informed about what is going on and where. We make sure that all identifiable property is circulated on police and public databases and through Project Kraken. By doing this we ensure that we structure our patrols to show a presence where it is most needed. This is the main reason it is so important for you to let us know what is going on and we continue to work with local police and the marine community in general.

It seems like a long time ago now when we think back to January. We had 41 marine related incidents in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Over the second weekend of the year when the weather was awful someone stole three outboard motors from boats at Keyhaven, A Honda 50 hp, a Honda 5hp and a 15hp Mariner. We later had a report that a dinghy had also gone which may have been used to gain access to the boats.

In a marina on Lymington River there were five boats damaged by a number of suspects. This investigation is ongoing and if you have any information please contact Lymington Police, us or Crimestoppers.



A white Walker Bay dinghy called TT Black Pearl was taken in Gosport around the same time that a Johnson outboard was reported missing

from a mid river mooring near Hardway. There were also reports of things going missing from a couple of the yards in the area.

Very often these things are connected and committed by individuals or small groups. Elsewhere we had a 2.5hp Suzuki outboard stolen at Port Solent, an Evinrude 7.5 hp on the Medina and a complete radar kit taken off a rib in Haslar Creek.

Some of the other calls we had this month related to people finding old bones and a selection of bullets and munitions - our local naval history is ever present!

February 2014

The appalling weather in February probably had something to do with only having 32 incidents passed to us. Thieves attacked 5 boats stored on rural land on Hayling Island and stole various outboards and electrics including a 50 hp Honda, a smaller Mariner motor, a Silva compass and Lowrance fishfinder. Over at Hurst Sailing Club a storage shed was entered and several more outboards were taken, two were very clearly marked as club property. The majority of these had recorded serial numbers and have been added to www.stolenboats.org.uk

More details can be found on our Bulletin pages. A dinghy was found abandoned on the shore at Netley. Although the boat had a name on it, we were not able to link it to it's owner until he discovered it missing a few days later and although he recovered his outboard the dinghy was stolen again. On the Beaulieu a yacht was targeted, most of the on board electronics were stolen including the chart plotter, depth and wind gauges, all of which were Raymarine, along with a 2 hp Honda outboard. At Newport on the Isle of Wight there were a couple of boats broken into. A suspect has been identified but is yet to be located. Local police have him on their radar!



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March 2014

Crime Review continued

Also on the Isle of Wight a dark blue and grey, simulated clinker style dinghy was stolen from the area around the Folly moorings. It is marked with a post code of PO31 7NH.

Following on from the 'findings' in January this month we had calls about some medical packs, more bones, more munitions, several dinghies and also a flare on a beach! The latter was found by young children who took it home where it was disposed of safely. Please check out the flare amnesty details on page 5.

March 2014

Sometime in the first couple of months of the year two Fletcher speed boats were stolen from holiday parks on the east of the Isle of Wight, one was a blue Arrowflight and the other was a white and black boat called 'Ship Faced' - eyes peeled please.



Later in the month we saw the theft of two personal watercrafts, a maroon and white Yamaha from Ringwood and a black and bronze Yamaha Waverunner from Lee on the Solent. Both craft were marked with Datatag security and can be traced. Please don't buy anything without checking it out, if police find you with stolen property it will probably be taken from you and attempts will be made to trace who sold it to you. A legitimate seller should be willing to furnish you with details of serial numbers and satisfy you that they are who they say they are. If you don't know who you bought it from how are the police going to know? Full details of the PWC's are on our bulletins.

Overnight on Thursday 13th to Friday 14th March at River Yar Boatyard in Yarmouth there were 7 boats attacked with a number of high value outboards stolen. The intensive investigation by local officers, supported by our unit has shown that this was clearly an Organised Crime Group. This is a current investigation and if you have any information please pass it on to us and hopefully we will update you in the next newsletter.

In Southampton several people broke into a yard and using a trailer and a pick up type vehicle they removed three outboard motors from boats stored there, including a Yamaha 40 hp.



If you store your boat and outboard in an area where others are, take a moment to check the security and report any suspicious activity or people wandering around. We are confident that organised offenders check out places and property before they steal. Elsewhere there were an assortment of thefts from boats, batteries from boats at Calshot and Solent Breezes, fuel in Yarmouth and tools across both counties. Whilst you are working on your boats in preparation for launch please put your tools away or take them home. There is nothing quite so annoying as having equipment taken from your



boat with your own tools—lets not make it easy for them!

At Hillhead a 5.2m Humber rib was taken. It was fitted with a 60 hp Mariner outboard and was on a trailer. Full details and bulletin pages can be accessed on the Project Kraken pages of Hampshire Police's website.

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Successes



**DEVON & CORNWALL
CONSTABULARY**

National trends for marine crime was one of the topics discussed at the recent Stolenboats Conference. Officers from Devon and Cornwall Police were able to tell us that their efforts to combat organised criminal gangs have had a marked impact on their reported

crime, particularly large scale outboard thefts. They worked with the community to improve security, raise awareness and vigilance and ultimately liaised with a number of different Forces across the UK. A gang of Lithuanian offenders first struck on the north coast of Cornwall. When they were detained later by police in Hertfordshire, PC Allerton-Baldwin from the Force's Marine and Coastal Policing Team went to act as marine specialist for the courts and three men were sentenced to terms of imprisonment. At least one of these convicted offenders returned to the county and having been identified through forensic evidence at another crime scene he was arrested but fled the country whilst on bail. Sergeant Andy Stewart who leads the team (all of whom have other roles in the Force) tells us that when a gang came back to a location that had been attacked twice previously, an action plan was initiated which forced the gang to flee leaving behind a vehicle and lots of other items which proved invaluable in identifying those involved. This time the enquiry led them to Lincolnshire where Sergeant Stewart worked with local police on a major operation and recovered £220,000 worth of outboards and a BMW car. Some of the engines had been stolen in Poole and around the time in Hampshire we had a failed attempt near Southampton. A number of Lithuanian men were arrested and charged.

Recent updates

Here are some of the more recent results of investigations carried out into marine crime in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. You may recall that we appealed for witnesses and information after a spate of crime in West Cowes. As a result we told you of the arrest of Marcus DOMINEY who was charged with a number of crimes. He pleaded guilty to several offences of theft or handling stolen goods and has been ordered to complete 60 hours of unpaid work, pay £200 compensation and is subject to a supervision order.

In September 2013 two youths were caught stealing a dinghy at Royal Clarence Marina in Gosport. The older lad was 16 and has since appeared in court and was sentenced to a total of 12 months detention for taking the dinghy without permission and for a number of other matters. The younger lad aged 13 was dealt with through community resolution. This is a relatively new option for police dealing with lesser matters without recourse to courts. For example when a 22 year old male climbed on a boat at Southsea in the mud causing a huge mess and minor damage police encouraged a community resolution and the victim accepted £100 towards the clean up. Offenders obviously have to demonstrate remorse and all parties must agree that it is an appropriate course of action.

In Southampton Court Jamie Royall, 40 years and Carole Ray, 36 years, pleaded guilty to causing damage to a yacht in Lymington and were ordered to pay £500 each in compensation. In addition they both received a 12 months conditional discharge.

Just after Christmas the captain of a commercial ship was suspected of being drunk in charge of his ship. He failed to provide a breath test and was sentenced at court to 4 months imprisonment, suspended for 2 years and fined £6,000.

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Flare Amnesty

FLARE AMNESTY



Don't just chuck them in the bin - come and hand them in!



Hampshire Constabulary Marine Unit in conjunction with Ramora UK, one of the UK's leading bomb disposal companies and the below marinas are offering "a distress flare amnesty" for private boat owners. The disposal of out-of-date flares is a growing problem for boat owners who face severe penalties if they fail to follow the correct procedures.

Out-of-date flares can be delivered to the following sites in Hampshire & the Isle of Wight.

Sat	26th April	Northney Marina (MDL)
Sat	10th May	Hamble Point Marina (MDL)
Sat	17th May	Cowes Yacht Haven
Sun	10th Aug	Lymington Yacht Haven
Sun	19th Oct	Hamble Point Marina MDL (no separate event)

The service will be between 1000hrs & 1500hrs on the above dates and will be in conjunction with open days/boat shows already taking place at the venue.

Up to ten flares per private individual will be accepted free of charge however we will be asking for a charitable donation. Previous other events have charged £2 per flare. Disposal of quantities greater than ten will only be possible by prior agreement.

Over the year we hope to raise enough money to buy a sailing dinghy(ies) which we will then donate to a sailing club(s) for the use of young people who would not normally get the opportunity to experience the sport of sailing.

Ramora UK have helped to develop and implement official explosive related procedures which are now accepted as best practice throughout the industry. Ramora UK's National Explosive Safety Scheme (NESS) improves awareness, offers advice, training and practical disposal services and equipment, which in turn improves safety, reduces risk and equips pyrotechnic users with the knowledge and capability to deal with Miscellaneous Pyrotechnics (MPs) with minimum risk and allowing them to protect people and assets.

David Welch FCMI, MIExpE, MIABTI, Ramora UK's Managing Director, commented: "We are delighted to partner Hampshire Constabulary Marine Unit in running this service. The collection and disposal of these potentially dangerous items is vitally important to public safety and should be dealt with by experts; we are proud to provide this to members of the public."

Sgt Tony Birr OIC Hampshire Constabulary Marine Unit added: "This is another great example of how we can work with our partners to provide an effective service to the marine community whilst promoting public safety and giving something back to society in the form of youth activities."

Sarah Thorpe BSc (Hons), DipDEC, Hampshire Constabulary's Energy and Environmental Compliance Advisor stated: "These amnesties provide a safe and compliant way to dispose of flares; reducing the potential detrimental risks to both people and the environment through inappropriate and irresponsible disposal methods."

For further information please contact Hampshire Police Marine Unit via their email marine@hampshire.pnn.police.uk.

Don't just chuck them in the bin - come and hand them in!



Empty your boat lockers and dispose of your marine flares before they become unstable. Avoid an explosive disaster! Donations will go to support local youth sailing.

Join us from 10am - 3pm:

Saturday	April 26	Northney Marina (MDL)
Saturday	May 10	Hamble Point Marina (MDL)
Saturday	May 17	Cowes Yacht Haven
Sunday	Aug 10	Lymington Yacht Haven
Sunday	Oct 19	Hamble Point Marina (MDL)

Search Kraken at www.hampshire.police.uk or visit www.ramora.uk.com for further details



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Stolenboats.org.uk

stolenboats
.org.uk

One of the best weapons we have against the theft and subsequent handling/sale of stolen marine property is the stolen boats website.

Hampshire Police Marine Unit are proud to chair the website forum which is held every six months and attended by Police Officers from marine units around the country, marine insurance companies and marine insurance assessors. This is an invaluable time for us where we get to compare national trends and organised crime groups, make contacts with our colleagues in other areas and bring a collective approach to the way we evolve our national response to crime fighting and counter terrorism on the water.

The website provides a database of stolen vessels, outboards and marine property which is updated by most marine insurance companies, police forces and assessors around the UK. There are European sister stolenboats forums in many countries on the continent and together, the sites provide a comprehensive list of outstanding stolen marine property.

THE BEST BIT....You the general public have access to this information and as it is a website, you can use your smart-phone and mobile devices to search the site where ever you are.

With the boat jumble season starting and many people looking to buy second hand marine property ready for the season we strongly recommend you use this site before parting with your hard earned cash - simply visit the site and type the serial number or make/model into the search database so you can buy your next outboard with confidence.

Swasie Turner MBE

Swasie Turner is a medically retired police officer who suffered severe injuries in the line of duty including the loss of his right leg and part of his hand.



Swasie is a remarkable man who has devoted his retired life to being a 'fundraising crusader' - he recently passed the 1 million pound mark in funds raised for his chosen charities which include the victims of 9/11, the Fire-fighters' charity, COPS (Care of Police Survivors), the Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund, a host of cancer charities and many other worthy causes. It is nearly impossible to list every one of Swasie's achievements to date which include some incredible feats of strength and endurance such as pushing his wheelchair 943 miles from Lands End to John O'Groats, a 286 mile push from the White House to Ground Zero and climbing the 135ft Leasowe Lighthouse (before obviously abseiling down the outside of it!) - a full list of his achievements can be found at his website www.swasieturner.org.

Swasie contacted us recently to explain his next challenge will be to circumnavigate the Isle of Wight in his wheelchair (a distance of about 80 miles) which he intends to complete in just 4 days between Sunday 1st and Wednesday 4th June. Swasie is hoping to start his journey in Ryde and he would really relish the support of anyone who has time to pop out and cheer him on along the way as he carries his donations bucket around the island. If you do pop out be warned: Swasie may seem like he is taking it easy but he explained that he needs a bit left to scale the Rock of Gibraltar a short time after his Isle of Wight adventure!

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Events for the Diary

Our 5 Flare Amnesty days which we will be running across the region in conjunction with Ramora UK will give all of you the opportunity to rid your vessels of expired flares and get things safe and shipshape for the fantastic summer we are owed after the last 2 months of fence snapping, boat sinking madness. For boat jumble dates, see the last newsletter:-

Sat 26th April	-	<i>Northney Marina</i>
Sat 10th May	-	<i>Hamble Point Marina</i>
Sat 17th May	-	<i>Cowes Yacht Haven</i>
Sun 10th Aug	-	<i>Lymington Yacht Haven</i>
Sun 19th Oct	-	<i>Hamble Point Marina</i>

Who are we?

The newest member of the team PC Minka Armitage is our focus in this edition. Minka has been on the Unit for at least...2 weeks and joins us from the Isle of Wight! Welcome to the team Minka.



Best bit of being in the police?

People I work with (We assumes she means her new team)

...and the Worst?

Paperwork

Favourite moment in the police?

Joining the Marine Unit

Most embarrassing police moment?

Slipping over on ice in front of a large crowd - they cheered!

What was your first arrest for?

Affray

Favourite TV?

Death in Paradise

Its sunny, you've got leave, what do you do?

Go sailing

Likes?

Sailing, chocolate and holidays

Dislikes?

Liver and onions

You can have any car?

A pink BMW

And any boat?

Swan 45'

You can have any 3 course dinner?

Goats cheese and red onion tart, Fillet Steak and Crème Brulee

Favourite Holiday?

Caribbean

A fact your colleagues don't know about you?

I used to be a Northern Soul DJ

Karaoke is on - what are you singing?

Do I love You by Frank Wilson

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