

# Sustainability & Falmouth Harbour Newsletter



Falmouth Harbour are continuously working towards understanding our impacts so that we can start to really contribute positively to the sustainability of Falmouth Harbour and beyond. This newsletter will touch on a few projects we are working on or are relevant to harbour users.

This newsletter will focus on the following:

- Waste flares (pyrotechnics)
- Seabin
- Winter boat maintenance
- Anti-foul coatings

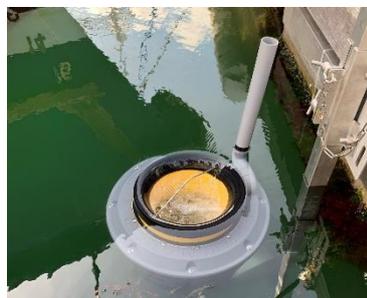
## Waste flares

The Government recently concluded its consultation on waste flares disposal from domestic vessels. It has been decided that the MCA will no longer offer a collection service and will be working with the industry to come up with a solution.

At Falmouth Harbour flares are disposed of through Survitec. If you are struggling to get rid of yours, please contact us for a quote for disposal.



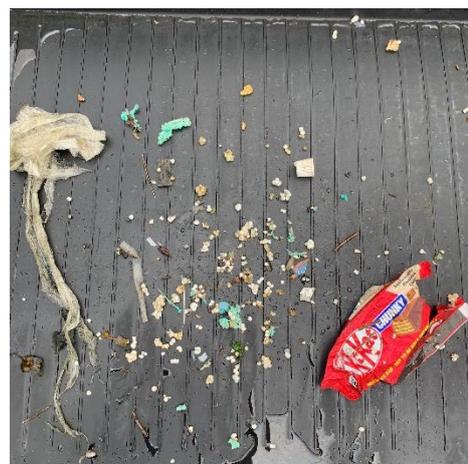
## Waste Plastics and Falmouth Harbour Seabin



Falmouth Harbour (FH) have installed a Seabin on the Haven pontoons to collect some of the plastic waste currently floating around in the harbour. The Seabin has caught a number of items with the predominant material caught polystyrene. Polystyrene is used inside buoys and fenders so please check yours to make sure the outer cover has not been breached.

The Seabin pump filter recently clogged due to grass cuttings getting caught in it, please do not place grass cuttings into the sea. This is not where they belong. You can get a brown garden waste bin from Cornwall Council for a reasonable rate which is collected every 2 weeks. Please ensure you use this as opposed to tipping it in the sea.

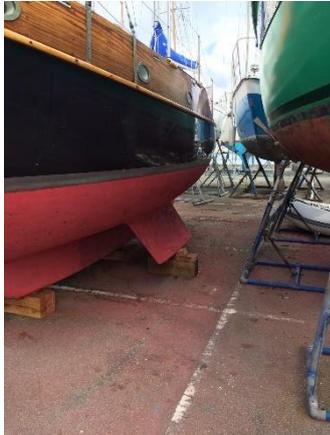
Fishing nets remain the most damaging plastic waste in the marine environment as they continue to catch fish and other animals as ghost nets. If you lose or see a net you can use the Fish & Click app / website to report its location [Fish & Click \(ifremer.fr\)](https://www.ifremer.fr) so it can be recovered.



# Sustainability & Falmouth Harbour Newsletter



## Winter boat maintenance



FH recently lifted customer boats from the water and washed them down. This was very successful as it has been in previous years with the wash water being caught and treated to remove the heavy metal contamination.

Winter boat maintenance will now commence. When removing paint from your boat try to minimise dust & please ensure particles are collected on a tarp or use a vacuum cleaner linked to your sander to collect particles.

When painting please ensure that drips are caught and use the correct application method.

Further information on best practice can be found here [Antifouling your boat safely - DIY antifouling initiative \(coatings.org.uk\)](#).

## Anti-foul coatings

There are alternative antifoul coatings now available which require less annual maintenance and contain less or no biocides (chemicals that are toxic to the marine environment and organisms that live in it). One such coating is Finsulate. For more information use this link [Antifouling products - Finsulate](#)

Clean Sailors recently completed a podcast on Finsulate and how it works [Our Clean Sailors podcast](#). Explaining how the technology was inspired by Seaurchins.

FH are planning to get Killigrew (Harbour Patrol vessel) and Arwenack (Leisure Launch) wrapped with Finsulate later this year in a bid to operate our vessels with less pollution to the water. We are hopeful this will result in reduced maintenance costs as well as we will be able to washdown without requiring wash water containment and associated craneage and yard costs.



## Waste has value

As we come up to Christmas it's worth trying to consider the impact the presents you are buying have had and will have on the environment. Locally there is a sail recycling scheme which will accept sails you no longer need and upcycle them into attractive bags and soft furnishings cleverly contributing to the circular economy by creating value out of waste. For more information please see [Sail Upcycling Network, South West UK – Clean Sailors](#).

## How you can get involved

We would like to understand your thoughts on the above initiatives and also on the local Falmouth Harbour harbour environment and how it can / should be sustainably managed. You can contact Vicki on [egsm@falmouthharbour.co.uk](mailto:egsm@falmouthharbour.co.uk) or give the office a call to discuss further.