

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:

- Seavive pod update
- Marine E-Charging Living Lab in Plymouth & Green Tech Boat Show
- Citizen science & the International SeaKeepers Society
- Seagrass Marking

Seavive pod update

There was a lot of excitement in April when we found germinated seagrass seeds inside the hessian bags planted at Flushing in January (see Feb newsletter). The germination of the seeds means that the Seavive pod concept works. Our congratulations go to Alex Croasdell who invented the Seavive Pod and thanks to Project Seagrass and University of Exeter for providing support.

It has been great to work with Alex on such an innovative project. I am excited to see where else it can be used and learn about other seagrass regeneration projects around the world that may be now possible due to this innovation. Alex is working on the next design iteration allowing the pod to be suspended under a pontoon system. I am hopeful we can continue to help test and develop this important device.



Marine e- Charging Living Lab (MeLL)



Last month I attended an event to launch the MeLL in Plymouth. This is a fascinating and innovative project that has installed 3 marine electric charge points to serve a growing number of electric vessels operating in and around the area. More information is available here [First UK charging network for electric maritime vessels launched in Plymouth - University of Plymouth](#)

Also coming up is a free event at the MDL Marina in Plymouth – [The Green Tech Boat](#) show where a number of electric boats will be available to view and discuss opportunities around buying new and / or retrofitting.

We would be really interested in harbour users thoughts on this project. Do you currently use an electric outboard or are you considering going electric? If so, we would like to hear from you on what infrastructure you would like to see in Falmouth to facilitate this. If there is enough interest I will try and set up a meeting to discuss some potential options with interested harbour users.

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Citizen science and The International SeaKeepers Society

It is often the case that we don't know enough about the marine environment and the organisms that inhabit it to be able to fully understand the impacts we are having on them and what to do to limit these. Increasingly there are more projects being set up to make the most of technology and people's interest in the environment through citizen science.

We see real value in people getting involved and learning more about the marine environment and what we can do to help protect and restore it. Falmouth Harbour are excited to be the first UK harbour to work with The International SeaKeepers Society, a charity set up to encourage and facilitate recreational boaters to contribute to marine scientific research. Join SeaKeepers efforts in the [DISCOVERY Yacht Program](#) in time for the launch on [World Ocean Day](#). A webpage has been added to the harbour website with further information on what is going on and how to get involved. Visit [Citizen science - Falmouth Harbour, Cornwall](#) to get started.

Sensitive Seabed (Seagrass & Maerl) Marking



We have been working with the Ocean Conservation Trust funded by Plymouth Gin to install some markers to provide an on the water solution to know when you are sailing over a seabed that is sensitive to anchoring either seagrass or maerl.

To keep the number of markers in Falmouth to a minimum we have combined these marks with seasonal marks already in place. We have created a [Q&A on the Falmouth Harbour website](#) to provide further information on this initiative.

Please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Photo: Ocean Conservation Trust – Jay Stone

How you can get involved

We would like to understand your thoughts on the above information and also on the local Falmouth Harbour environment and how it can / should be sustainably managed. You [can contact Vicki](#) or give the office a call to discuss further.