

Sustainability & Falmouth Harbour Newsletter



FALMOUTH
HARBOUR

UK's Atlantic gateway.

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 & Restoration
- SeaKeepers
- Advanced Mooring System trial findings

Seavive & Seagrass restoration

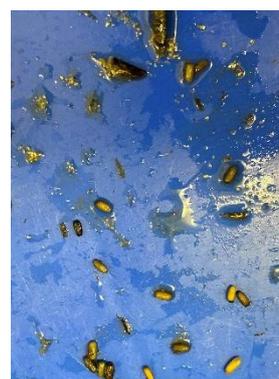
You may remember we facilitated the [trial of a Seavive pod](#) last year and were successful in germinating some seagrass seeds. This year Alex Croasdell completed a new design iteration to enable the pod to hang from a pontoon and we were helped by GAC UK and Our Only World to fund the new design to be 3D printed from recycled plastics by Niall Jones.



We harvested seeds in late July with Natural England's permission from the Flushing Seagrass bed and placed them in the newly designed pods. The filled pods were then suspended from our Falmouth Haven pontoons to allow time for the pods to rot down.

We retrieved the pods in November and took the contents to the Cornwall Community Flood Forum where, working with a great group of educators and researchers we worked with school kids to separate and count the seeds, mix them with sand and place in small hessian bags ready for planting. We even had a tank where the kids could 'plant their seagrass

bag into! Currently waiting for a weather window to plant the seeds out into a scour patch so we can monitor the success of the planting.



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Advanced Mooring System Trial findings

We have just moved the vessel from the Advanced Mooring System and are finalising the report of how the mooring performed. The vessel was on the mooring for over 3 months from Late July to early November so withstood some pretty interesting weather.

We are working to finalise the report on the trial. Once completed this will be available from our website.



Our harbour masters are concerned about the potential navigational hazard caused by the proximity of floats and chain to the water surface particularly at low tide.

The next step is to work with other organisations trialling this solution to see if this issue can be overcome.



SeaKeepers

SeaKeepers have some exciting projects to get involved with at the moment. If you are heading to the Med next year you could contribute to research on Great White Sharks which are thought to breed within the Mediterranean. You can register your [interest here](#).



You could also contribute to the [effort to map the world's oceans by 2030](#), SeaKeepers has joined the Seabed 2030 Project to engage additional vessels that will relay information collected from specially designed hardware data loggers that are used to collect bathymetric data, and are easily installed or integrated into vessel systems.



The project uses crowdsourced bathymetry (CSB), which is the collection of depth measurements from vessels, using standard navigation instruments, while engaged in routine maritime operations. CSB can be used to supplement the more rigorous and scientific bathymetric coverage done by hydrographic offices, industry, and researchers around the world.

This information can help identify uncharted features such as seamounts and canyons, verify charted information and help fill the spaces on charts where no data exists. Routinely measured parameters such as under keel depth and position can then be stored, uploaded, and contributed to local and global mapping initiatives. These contributions can also benefit navigational safety, detect unknown hazards, and aid other mariners and ocean scientists.

So if you are sailing around next summer and planning an exciting trip please get in touch as you could potentially contribute to these amazing projects.

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.