



Environmental Forum

Welcome to the first CHF Environmental Forum Newsletter. Our aims are to share best practice on our journey to ensure that our organisations are sustainable for future generations and to protect the area of outstanding natural beauty that is Chichester Harbour. We have achieved quite a bit since the inception of the Forum in April 2021 - Year 1.



Aims of the Chichester Harbour Federation (CHF) Environment Initiative

The CHF is uniquely placed to bring organisations around the harbour together to create a more sustainable environment. With collaboration, we can achieve greater impact, sharing expertise and knowledge and by supporting each other. With a proud heritage of approaching fifty years, the CHF can ensure that our harbour continues to be a place for inspiration, enjoyment and wellbeing for the next generation.

Terms of Reference - The Forum's Terms of Reference can be found [here](#)

2022 Baseline Survey

An environmental baseline for each participating organisation for 2021 has been received. There are 38 member organisations and 15 baselines have been returned. Of these, 4 clubs have carried out a review and have an action plan. One organisation - a marina has ISO14001 accreditation. A further 2 marinas have 5 Gold Anchor Accreditation which has the environment as one of the criteria. We will be carrying out this survey online at the beginning of each year so that we can chart everyone's progress in aiming for a more sustainable future.

Please complete the 2022 survey [here](#)

The Pathway for our clubs and marine businesses to becoming more environmentally sustainable: → → →

The RYA/British Marine Green Blue Framework takes individuals, club and businesses through 10 steps on the pathway. These can be done in any order except that the first three steps are critical in ensuring that the

Environment and Sustainability is embedded in your organisation. Below are the steps with some links you may find helpful:

1. Leadership and organisation structure – Do you have an Environment Lead or Sustainability Officer and how do you include the environment in all your committee meetings?
2. Environmental Policy and Action Plan: [Website](#)
3. Awareness Raising: [Website](#)
4. Water Pollution Prevention
5. Energy conservation
6. Water conservation
7. Waste Management
8. Catering and Single Use Plastic Free
9. Habitat and Wildlife Protection
10. Biosecurity

The Forum will focus on each of these areas and signpost useful resources as we progress.



The CHF Environmental Forum Dates for 2022

Tuesday 8th Feb 19.30-21.00
Zoom
Tues 8th March 19.30-21.00
Zoom
Wed 27th April 19.30-21.00
Zoom
Mon 6th June 19.30-21.00 F2F

Wildlife Awareness Week 6th-12th June 2022

Wed 7th Sept 19.30-21.00 F2F
Tues 11th Oct 19.30-21.00
Zoom

Richard Austin, AONB Manager will join us for the call on the **8th February** to tell us about Conservancy initiatives, including the Chichester Harbour Protection and Recovery of Nature (CHaPRoN) projects.

Single Plastic Free Accreditation:



At the November meeting, Bianca Carr gave a presentation on Single-Use Plastic Free Accreditation. The Green Blue's Kate Fortnam and the Final Straw Foundation's Bianca Carr launched the accreditation at the International Boat Show 2021.

There are three levels of certification for organisations to progress through: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each level is determined by the organisation's dedication to eliminating single-use plastic items from their activities. This seems a good start for our organisations with something that is easily measurable through this accreditation.

For further information please [click here](#)

Water Quality: There is much going on around the harbour with regards to looking at water quality and we will leave updates on this to those better placed to do this, including the usual channels for real time water quality monitoring.

The members of the Forum will continue to work with each other to reduce our own organisations' impact on the environment and water quality. We will also ensure we communicate what is happening around the harbour with regards to looking at water quality - a quick summary, but by no means an exhaustive list below:

- a. **The Conservancy** has water quality information on their [website](#). They are also running a project with the University of Sussex.
- b. **The University of Chichester and Litmus Technologies** are working together, facilitated by the Conservancy, to place a series of buoys which will monitor levels of pollution in Chichester Harbour and provide live data for industries and members of the public: [website](#)
- c. **The Clean Harbour Partnership** Rob Bailey and some of the Sailing Club's Water Quality Officers are involved in this. They are focused on Project Spotlight run by Portsmouth and Brunel Universities: [website](#)
- d. **Universities of Exeter and Portsmouth** - A study, led by the University of Exeter and also involving researchers from the University of Portsmouth, found two *Vibrio* species (bacteria) - *Vibrio rotiferianus* and *Vibrio jasicida* - that have never been recorded in UK waters before in Chichester Harbour: [website](#)

Webinars you may find Useful:

To get started - the recording of the webinar 'A sustainable return to boating' presented by Phil Horton, the RYA Environment and Sustainability Manager is an easy to watch summary of the RYA strategy.

Open for registration:

Solent Maritime Focus - Sustainable Anchoring & Moorings 17th Feb and the 24th March 2022 7:30pm - 8:30pm LIVE WEBINARs. To book or to see the above recording go to: [Website](#)

Chichester Harbour Federation



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