

PORTLAND PORT UK

PRESS RELEASE – 14th August 2019

START

PORTLAND PORT COMMENCE THEIR YEARLY BREAKWATER CLEAN UP WITH THE HELP OF PORTLAND MARINA



The team with some of the waste collected

Marine plastic and waste pollution are a serious threat to the health and biodiversity of marine environments. Portland Port in the past have taken steps to begin addressing the issue of waste that is being washed up, in and around Portland Harbour. Last week a team of Portland Port and Portland Marina employees spent time removing the plastics and litter that have been washed up on the Northern Breakwater. With an extensive breakwater system of over 5km it seemed like a good place to work on.

Ian McQuade (General Manager – Commercial) said *“Like last year it was again shocking to see just how much waste plastics have washed onto this area of the breakwater. After a couple of hours and around 20 dumpy bags it feels as if we have at least made a small contribution to trying to reduce the threat to our marine life and the environment.”*

Portland Marina staff joined harbour authority employees. As well as helping with the clean-up, they will be utilising some of the materials found as part of The Wombling Sculpture Workshop an arts project for Portland Week and their Art by the Sea showcase on 19th August. This is being run by one of the onsite tenants ‘Athay Studio and Gallery’. Paul Swain from Portland Marina said, *“Portland Marina offered to join Portland Harbour on their breakwater clean up because they are strong advocates of the environment and a combined joint effort to sort out the plastic pollution problem seemed unmissable, there was also the bonus of sourcing new materials to be used for a ‘Unique Art Piece’.”*

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Sandie Wilson (Environment & Planning Manager) commented *'It is amazing what you can achieve in just a few hours and great to see everyone's enthusiasm to get involved, especially with the help of Portland Marina. We couldn't believe the diversity of the waste that was scattered on the breakwater. "*

The waste that was collected will go towards the Wombling Sculpture and the rest will be separated, and as much as possible being recycled.



The Portland Marina Staff helping



Some of the waste found

For more information or images please contact Sandie Wilson at Portland Port on 01305 825339 or email s.wilson@portland-port.co.uk.

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Previously a naval dockyard for over 150 years, Portland Harbour is now a thriving and successful commercial facility. It still maintains a close relationship with the past through its ongoing contract to support the RFA, as well as being home to the activities of Global Marine and Portland Bunkers UK. It has almost 2,500 hectares of water at depths of up to 15m (C.D.); and provides vessel services from long term lay-ups to brief maintenance calls, luxury cruise liner docking facilities to industrial cargo shipments.

The tariff and general Portland Harbour Authority information can be viewed at <http://www.portland-port.co.uk/>

M/F

Portland Port has over 2,000 metres of alongside berths and 11.6 metres (C.D.) depth of water at the deepest alongside berth.

Berthing for vessels up to 350m (subject to Harbour Master's approval).

11 designated anchorages are within the 1,015-hectare inner harbour.

Six designated anchorages are within the 1,436-hectare Outer Harbour.

A width of 210 metres and depth of over 12.6 metres (C.D.) at the entrance of the harbour mean that there are few vessel beam, lock, or air draft restriction.

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