

Newsletter

Hafan Pwllheli Marina



@HafanPwllheli



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Here's what has happened in the Marina this last month:

Welcome to the July 2026 newsletter! What a month it has been, full of sunshine, boating days, and probably sunburns!

This month we have been up to many things, lifting Fishguard's lifeboat, weeding the front steps and painting for our marina to become more accessible and new team members!

All of the above is to come in the next few pages!

Hafan Pwllheli Marina

In this newsletter you can expect:

Fishguard
Lifeboat

Accessibility

New Faces

Trollies

Dredging

Old Firmhelm
Shop

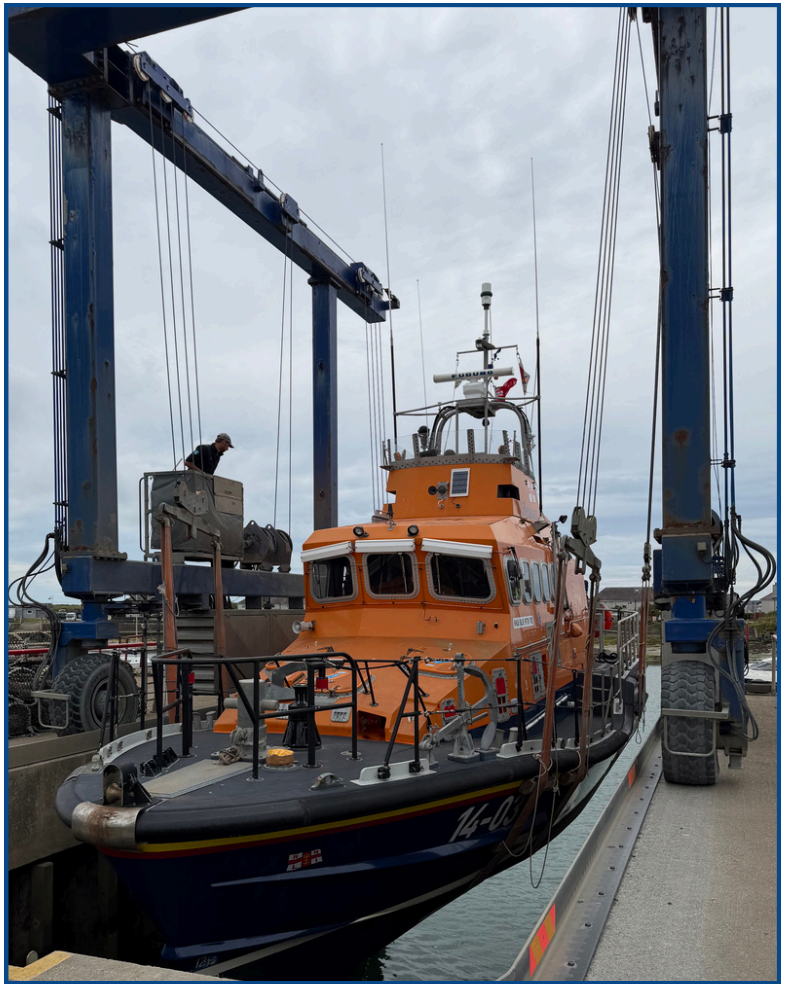
Fishguard Lifeboat

At the start of the month we took out Fishguard's lifeboat for one of their routine checks and maintenance!

This was a pleasure to lift, one of our team mentioned whilst Jet Washing the hull, "I felt nothing but respect for the boat when I was washing it!" That was a feeling you could not ignore, the same feeling you might get when you're standing in front of someone who has raced around the world on a boat, it's a very deep feeling. Something I would urge you all to go find.

This boat was nearly at the limit of the hoist's capabilities and it took a day for us to do it. The cleaning took hours, there is such a large area to cover, and with the dark antifoul, it was difficult to see if we had cleaned it correctly or not, one thing we noticed was how the water behaved over the antifoul, that was how we knew if it was clean or not! as you can see in the photo, one half clean, the other not yet started. We delegated the work between us all, one doing 20-30 minutes, another going for lunch, another doing 20-30 minutes to cover that, and so on!

After all was done, they were re-launched and made their pin-straight journey back to Fishguard



Many of you will probably notice at the point of reading this, the working progress of painting the white lines at the front of the Marina office.

This process started by weeding the steps area to ensure a clean canvas to work on. We removed all the moss between each crack of the steps. This was a long process but it insured that we had clear lines and definitions for when we painted. The prep itself took three weeks from our first suggestion to paint them in a reflective colour for visually impaired people. We took this as a serious suggestion to ensure that **accessibility is not only accessibility on paper but accessibility in real life** and we would like to create a change in how visually impaired people can navigate our marina! Not only the visually impaired people who use the marina but the wider community of whom live on the Llyn Peninsula to be able to walk around our harbour to help their mental health!

This suggestion came from Mr. Hydro. You might call him Roo. He asked us in the middle of June to paint these lines so that he could navigate the steps within his working environment whilst being visually impaired.

Our team members would take a section of about 328 steps and paint them individually every day starting on Thursday the 16th of July and on Friday a further 328 steps.

We initially started painting just the top step, but this to us did not seem good enough. After a meeting with Mr. + Mrs Hydro one of our team members came up with the idea that all steps did not need to be painted on the 90° and that 45° angle because this would merge the steps together, which defeated the whole purpose! So, our team member suggested that we just paint the 45° for the lower steps! We tested it out, if the guide dog would recognise it, and Mr. Hydro, they agreed with the plan. Then we got to work immediately to ensure that they would be done sooner rather than later!

Accessibility - Line Painting



New Faces in our Team

Ffion

We have ffion who has joined us in the middle of July, she has joined the team as a Project Manager, she has merged into our team very quickly! Here are a few words from Ffion:

"I'm really pleased to be joining the team at Pwllheli Marina as a Project Manager. Some of you may already know me from my time as Dock Master in Victoria Dock Caernarfon.

Before moving into harbour operation, my background was in development and land acquisition, so this role brings together two areas I'm passionate about. I'm excited to be working with the team to help deliver Pwllheli Harbour's Long Term Strategic Plan, building on everything that already makes the marina such a great place while looking ahead to new opportunities for investment, sustainability and growth. I'm looking forward to meeting more of you over the coming weeks and working together to ensure Pwllheli continues to thrive for everyone who uses the harbour and town."



Mike

Another new face is Mike! He is a fellow berthholder like you, he is an avid sailor, he gives his time to the RNLI and always likes to be busy! Mike will be working down at the dock, assisting with the lifting of your boats! Here are a few words from Mike:

"It has been great to join the team at hafan pwllheli as a bosun!

I have worked with boats since I was 7 when I was taught to row in Abersoch harbour. Then dinghy racing, sailing in national championships in cadets, fireflies and snipes.

In more recent years I have raced keelboats. and have a sailing boat in the marina, when I'm not working with boats I train with the RNLI on the ALB crew at pwllheli, I teach the seacadets and train the juniors at Pwllheli sailing club, which is a slight change from my previous role in the pharmaceutical Industry, I'll be pleased to help other berth holders in my role in the Marina, diolch!"



Trolleys

A note about trolleys, first the bin area in previous newsletters, now Trollies. We are so exciting!

Nonetheless, we do our rounds of the marina to check safety and do some maintenance which is crucial to our marina. We come across many trollies that are left on the pontoons. This is a danger for health and safety, being a trip hazard, a danger during emergencies as it can slow the services down, so we try to keep it at a minimum, by going around and keeping the trollies ourselves

When we do this, your pound coins will be kept in the office with the berth number that we have taken it from, so pop up and grab the coin if we have taken it away!

We understand that when you go out to the water it is convenient to have the trolley there, for you to pack up and go. But if we could ask you to keep them before you go, we would appreciate it hugely.



Dredging Update

It's been a while since we provided any updates on dredging so we thought you might appreciate hearing something on the subject, albeit quite brief!

We've been focusing on our license application to pump dredged material out to sea as this would provide us the sustainable long term strategy we need. The modelling work which helps us understand what will happen with the material once it is pumped out to sea is almost complete.

Most recently you may have seen Abersoch Moorings boat all over the harbour conducting sediment sampling which is required for our application. As I'm sure you're aware our license application will be submitted to Natural Resources Wales (NRW). We continue to work closely with NRW to ensure when the application is submitted in the coming weeks it will contain all the information they require to make an informed decision. We'll update you again in September's newsletter once the application has been submitted.



Update on the old Firmhelm shop

We hope you're starting to get some use from the old Firmhelm shop which is now a lovely relaxing lounge area. The Hafan team were recently asked to name the lounge and the winning name is "Caban Hafan". Signs have been ordered which will soon be displayed.

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent vote regarding dogs. It was wonderful that over 120 of you took the time to cast your vote, thank you. The vote was in favour of dogs being allowed access to Caban Hafan which is effective immediately.

Some customers did raise concerns over allergies which was taken into consideration. It was decided as we do have customers and service users with support and assistance dogs which are legally required to access Caban Hafan we are unable to keep this a dog free space in terms of allergens. With this in mind we're supporting the outcome of the vote and dogs are now allowed in Caban Hafan.

We want Caban Hafan to be a welcoming space for all so please can everyone be respectful of each other by following these simple guidelines:

Please do not allow your dogs up onto the furniture – we will be providing dog pads/beds for their use.

Please do not use the lounge if you/your dog are covered in sand/mud/dirt.

It has also been brought to our attention that some of our customers have been "policing" Caban Hafan accosting people as they walk in the door quizzing them quite aggressively about who they are and if they're entitled to use the space. We need this to stop immediately. Caban Hafan is there for ALL our customers, visitors, and berth holders alike. We're hoping it'll be a great space where you can meet more than just your fellow berth holders on the same pontoon. Perhaps visitors to the marina can get some great tips from our berth holders. Maybe you can organise social evenings, quiz nights, wine and cheese nights, knot tying contests?

If you have any genuine concerns about who/how Caban Hafan is being used please contact a team member so we can deal with this appropriately.

We will of course be monitoring use of Caban Hafan over the coming weeks and months and welcome any feedback you may have on how to improve the space for everyone's enjoyment and relaxation.

