

Dunbar Harbour Trust

Newsletter - Issue 7 - September 09

Chairman's Welcome

My thanks as always to the volunteer members of the board of the DHT and the Dunbar Harbour Management Committee (DHMC), the harbour master and assistant harbour master for their hard work in making sure the harbour continues to provide the facilities and services in support of all the harbour users. I would like to welcome to the Board two new members, Peter Johnstone and Robin Hamilton both of whom bring considerable experience to the Board. I look forward to working with them and their input into the many activities of the Trust.

The Trust and DHMC continue to devote considerable time to a range of projects at the harbour, both big and small, ongoing and new, all of which are aimed at improving the fabric and facilities of the harbour. Some of these projects are described in more detail below. The Trust's ability to obtain funding for projects remains its main constraint on the number and size of the projects the Trust can undertake at any one time.

I am grateful to the many sponsors who have given and continue to give their support to the Trust in particular LEADER, The Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, FIGG European Fisheries Programme, East Lothian Council, Viridor Credits Scotland and The Architectural Heritage Fund.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and please don't hesitate to get in touch with any of members of the DHT or DHMC if you have any further questions or queries about the Trust activities. We always like to hear from you.

Colin McWhannell, September 2009

DUNBAR HARBOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



The Dunbar Harbour Management Committee (DHMC), which is a sub-committee of the Trust, is responsible for looking after the day to day management of the harbour and the general condition of the harbour and its facilities.

The list of the DHMC's activities is long and includes tasks such as safety inspections, emergency planning, repairs to harbour facilities, landscaping, car parking, signage, power and water supplies and moorings.

The members of the DHMC, chaired by Rodney Thomas, put a considerable amount of time and effort into ensuring the harbour is a safe and clean visitor attraction while, at the same time, making sure harbour users' needs are regularly reviewed.

The role of the DHMC is an essential and important service without which the general condition of the harbour would suffer and the all the members of the DHMC are to be congratulated on their achievements.

McArthur's Store



The newly restored and renovated McArthur's Store was formally opened on Tuesday 7th July 2009.

The Trust was delighted to welcome Mr John Bellany, one of Scotland's most famous living artists, to Dunbar to hand over the 'keys' to the Chairman following which the stores were made available, once again, for occupation by the fishermen.

The path to the re-opening of the store was long and full of the usual frustrations but, thanks to the expertise and dedication of all those involved, the result is magnificent facility for the fishermen of Dunbar while, at the same time, the fabric and feel of an historic building has been retained and preserved.

The story of the restoration can be found on the Trust website which includes mention of all those who have contributed to the success of the project.

Our thanks again for their support without which the project could never have been completed.

Meeting Room Available

Dunbar Harbour Trust have a meeting room available at McArthur's Store, their newly refurbished building at Cromwell Harbour.

The facility is available for groups, organisations, and companies interested in meeting in a unique and memorable atmosphere.

The room has seating capacity for 12/15

The rental fees received make it possible for DHT to maintain the facility and our rental fees reflect our non-profit status.

For booking enquiries please email us at

johnband@dunbarharbourtrust.co.uk

HARBOUR FABRIC

The Trust is conscious of the need to ensure that the fabric of the harbour is maintained in good order.

To this end, consultants have been asked to quote for preparing a 5 year programme of works which will include priority areas, timescales, estimated repair costs and a monitoring programme.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

A health and safety policy is being developed to ensure the Trust complies with current legislation and provides a safe environment for its employees and harbour uses.

LADDERS

New and replacement ladders have been installed in all three harbours which have improved ease and safety of access to and from vessels moored along the harbour quays.

THE BATTERY, LAMER ISLAND

A firm of landscape architects was employed by the Trust to draw up recommendations for the landscaping of the Battery on Lamer Island in order to provide improved ease of access and a better environment for visitors to enjoy the history and scenery of the Battery. The Trust has accepted the recommendations proposed by the architects and will be subject to public consultation prior to adoption. In the meantime, funders are being approached to provide the necessary funding.

AMENITIES BUILDING

The Trust has recognised for some time that the fact that there are no toilet or shower facilities at the harbour is a regular cause for complaint by visitors to and users of the harbour. The area previously occupied by the Victoria Ballroom has been identified as a possible location for such facilities and an architect was employed by the Trust to draw up some plans for suitable facilities to be constructed on that location. These plans were submitted to the East Lothian Council planning department only to discover that the site was listed and that it would be necessary for the Trust to arrange for an archaeological survey to be carried out to determine whether the site is of any historic significance. Little of interest was found and the plans are currently with Historic Scotland for their consideration and approval.

HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

Probably the largest of the Trust's current projects, the harbour development project is aimed at making the harbour a safe refuge for small craft throughout the year and in all weather conditions involving the possible deepening of the harbour and construction of a breakwater to eliminate surge at the harbour entrance. It also looks into the future and considers how the harbour can be developed into a more attractive visitor and leisure craft destination. Tenders have been received from a number of contractors to carry out outline engineering designs together with economic and options appraisals which are currently being evaluated and for which funding is already in place. The RNLI is providing the Trust with valuable support for the project both financially and technically in the hope that the ALB might be returned to the harbour and operated from there in the future.

WEBSITE

You will find more information about the activities and projects of the Trust and the DHMC on our website www.DunbarHarbourTrust.co.uk

If you think you can help or would like to contact us then please use the feedback form on the website.