



SHEPPERTON
MARINA



October 2026



NEWSLETTER

Welcome to this month's newsletter! Our fuel feature explores the history of red diesel and offers guidance on choosing the right split for your boat.

You'll also find details of our Halloween events, a seasonal look at pumpkins from Steve, and a sneak peek at Christmas. More festive details will follow, but you can book now for our fabulous Christmas party. We're celebrating our Marina Team of the Year award, sharing the latest Holiday Inn discounts on rooms and gym memberships, and letting you know there's just one space left on the RYA Day Skipper course.



Marina Team of the Year
2026

Winner



**MARINA AWARDS
2026**

anchored by Haven
Knox~
Johnston

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Fuel for your boat

A guide for the colder months

Practical advice, helpful tips and key information to keep you and your boat safe and running smoothly this winter

1

Red diesel: a little history

Red diesel is gas oil dyed red so it can be identified as fuel intended for uses other than ordinary road vehicles. The reduced rate of fuel duty dates back to the early days of fuel duty, when the tax was mainly intended for motoring and gas oil was largely used for heating. The red marking was introduced in 1961 to help identify rebated fuel.



Myth buster

Although red diesel was used during the Second World War, the red dye was not introduced specifically to thank vessels for their part in D-Day

2

Choosing your diesel duty split

In Great Britain, private pleasure craft can use red diesel, but the proportion used to propel the boat must be declared and charged at the full rate of duty. Fuel used for non-propulsion purposes, such as heating or powering appliances, may remain at the rebated rate. HMRC recognises that owners need to estimate their usage. A 60% propulsion / 40% non-propulsion split is likely to reflect many boats, but it is a guide rather than a fixed rule. Your declaration should be a reasonable estimate of how you expect to use the fuel.



Key Points to consider

Propulsion: fuel used by the engine to move the boat

Non-propulsion: fuel used for heating, a generator or appliances.

Estimate how often and for how long they will be used.



Worked example

If you estimate that 210 litres will be used by the propulsion engine and 90 litres by the heater or generator, your total estimated use is 300 litres. That suggests a 70% propulsion / 30% non-propulsion split.

- If you cruise frequently, your propulsion share may be higher. If you spend long periods aboard using diesel heating or a generator, your non-propulsion share may be higher.
- If you do not use diesel for any non-propulsion purpose, declare 100% for propulsion. Review your estimate if your pattern of use changes.
- If you have a separate tank used only for heating or other non-propulsion purposes, its fuel can be treated as non-propulsion provided it cannot be used to power the engine.

3 Preparing your diesel tank for winter

If your boat will be left for a longer period, consider topping up the diesel tank. A tank with less empty space contains less air, which can help reduce condensation. Water in the fuel can contribute to contamination and the growth of diesel bug, which may cause problems with filters and engine operation.



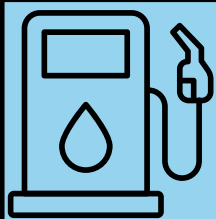
Important

Follow your boat or tank manufacturer's guidance and leave the appropriate space for fuel expansion. Do not overfill.

4 Petrol and safe refuelling

Petrol is not red diesel, and the diesel duty split does not apply to it. Petrol used in private pleasure craft is already subject to the full rate of duty.

Petrol needs particular care because it gives off vapour that can ignite easily. Vapour can collect in low or enclosed areas such as a boat's bilge, so even a small spill can create a serious fire risk. Follow the marina's instructions when refuelling, keep ignition sources away and deal with any spill immediately. If you smell petrol after refuelling, ventilate the boat and investigate before starting the engine or switching on electrical equipment.



**Please refuel at the designated fuel point.
Never on your berth.**

Refuelling on the pontoons is not permitted. A spill of either diesel or petrol can pollute the water, and petrol brings the added risk of flammable vapour. Please use the designated fuel point and follow the team's instructions.



SHEPPERTON
MARINA



A BOATING COMMUNITY, QUITE LIKE NO OTHER.

DOUBLE CELEBRATION FOR SHEPPERTON MARINA

2026 TYHA MARINA OF THE YEAR AWARDS

SPONSORED BY HAVEN KNOX-JOHNSTON



RUNNER-UP
INLAND MARINA
OF THE YEAR



WINNER
MARINA TEAM
OF THE YEAR

Shepperton Marina is delighted to announce that we have been named **Runner-Up** in the **Inland Marina of the Year** category and **WINNER** in the **Marina Team of the Year** category. These achievements recognise the care, dedication and enthusiasm our team brings to the marina every day.



We are incredibly proud of our team and grateful to our berth holders, visitors and wider marina community for their continued support. Thank you to everyone who helps make Shepperton Marina *'a boating community, quite like no other.'*

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Jayde and Freya, our Dock Masters, and Kelly, our Office Manager, also received special recognition.



DOCK MASTER
FREYA

Freya has been a Dock Master at Shepperton Marina since March 2026. You can find her always smiling on the pontoons!



*Well done
to our amazing
dock masters!*



DOCK MASTER
JAYDE

Jayde has been a Dock Master since November 2024. You can find him serving fuel, catching lines or lifting boats!



BOAT SHOWROOMS

ONE MONTH ON FROM SOUTHAMPTON INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW 2026!

It's hard to believe that a month has already passed since the Southampton International Boat Show kicked off, where we proudly showcased the UK Premiere of the stunning Enkhuizensloep 744 Tender Lounge! ☀️

What an incredible show it was! We received fantastic feedback and loved the opportunity to introduce this beautifully crafted Dutch tender to the UK market for the very first time.

📸 Here are some of our favourite action shots from the show! @saillofts

🚤 Did you see the 744 Tender Lounge at Southampton? Whether you're ready to make a purchase or simply interested in learning more, we'd love to hear from you!

⚓ Our very own stock model has arrived at the marina, so now is the perfect time to get in touch, register your interest or discuss securing this exceptional boat.



DO YOU NEED A BIGGER BOAT?



SELL YOUR BOAT WITH



BOAT SHOWROOMS

60+ YEARS' HERITAGE DESIRABLE LOCATIONS
VIDEO WALKTHROUGHS ENVIABLE REPUTATION
EXPERIENCED BROKERS

CONTACT NOW:



01932 260 261

Shepperton@boatshowrooms.com



HARRY SNOWBALL



TIM WALKER

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE TEAM
TODAY TO DISCUSS THE PROCESS.



SHEPPERTON
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OCTOBER HALLOWEEN FUN

VISIT THE MARINA OFFICE TO ENTER!



GUESS HOW MANY
SWEETS ARE IN THE JAR

£1 PER GUESS

Closest guess wins the jar



PREDICT THE
HALLOWEEN ITEM

£1 A GO

WINNER RECEIVES £50

£50 DONATED TO MOMENTUM CHILDREN'S CHARITY



PUMPKIN CARVING
COMPETITION

Bring your carved pumpkin to the Marina Office

26-30 OCTOBER

Winner selected by Lisa on 30 October

WIN



**£25 ELECTRICITY CREDIT
+ A BOTTLE OF BUBBLY**

SUPPORTING MOMENTUM CHILDREN'S CHARITY

As we continue to grow the benefits available to our annual berth holders, we're pleased to share two new offers from Holiday Inn: 15% off the best available bed and breakfast rate and 10% off gym memberships.



Shepperton Marina Exclusive Discount

Food and Beverage discount*
15% off outlets

Terms:

*Upon presentation of a valid Marina ID

**Excluding private events

NEW ANNUAL MOORING BENEFIT

Bed and Breakfast

15% off the Best Available Rate

Perfect for comfortable winter visits, friends and family.

Book online and enter code **787250374**
in the RATE PREFERENCE box

All Fit Leisure club membership*
10% off annual subscription

Terms:

*Upon presentation of a valid Marina ID

**New members only



Holiday Inn London - Shepperton
Felix Lane Shepperton, TW17 8NP United Kingdom



SHEPPERTON
MARINA



RYA DAY SKIPPER THEORY

SHOREBASED COURSE

ONE SPACE REMAINING

FIVE-DAY RYA COURSE

Following the success of our popular Tidal Thames course, and in response to numerous requests from berth holders, we are delighted to offer the RYA Day Skipper Shorebased Theory Course as the ideal next step in developing your boating knowledge and confidence. Delivered over five days, this comprehensive course is designed for aspiring skippers and less-experienced boaters. It covers the essential knowledge required to make safe and informed decisions when skippering a small vessel in familiar waters.

Topics include seamanship, chartwork, coastal navigation and pilotage, electronic charts, position fixing, plotting a course to steer, tides, weather forecasting and meteorology, and collision regulations.

Some practical boating experience is helpful but not essential. The course also provides an excellent foundation for anyone considering progressing to the RYA Day Skipper Practical Course.

COURSE DETAILS

£646 PER PERSON

- **DATES**
20-22 and 28-29 November 2026
- **TIMES**
9am-5pm daily
- **DURATION**
Five days

- **INCLUDED**
Tea and coffee available throughout
- **INCLUDED**
RYA course pack and certificate
- **BRING**
Portland plotter and single-handed dividers

Ready to book?

Please contact the Marina Office for more information.

MORE COURSES COMING SOON

**RYA VHF SRC Radio
Course & Exam**

27th & 28th February 2027

**Tidal Thames
Introduction**

6th March 2027



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Steve's Naturalist Bits: Pumpkins



Around 15 million pumpkins are grown in the UK each year, with the main harvest running from October to December.

An estimated 12.8 million pumpkins go uneaten each year. A record-breaking pumpkin grown in 2016 weighed 605 kg.

About 40% of UK consumers buy pumpkins to carve—but around 60% of those pumpkins are not eaten afterwards.

Irish immigrants took the tradition to America, where the larger pumpkin became popular for carving—and the custom later caught on back in the UK

Before pumpkins became the favourite, people in Ireland and the UK carved turnips, potatoes and beets to ward off Stingy Jack.

The word “pumpkin” is associated with the 17th-century Cinderella story, in which a pumpkin is transformed into a coach.

Nautical carving ideas

Anchor – a classic design that works well on a round pumpkin

Lighthouse – add a star or moon above it for a spooky night-time scene

Sailboat – carve the hull, mast and sails against a simple wave pattern

Ship's wheel – a bold design with spokes radiating from the centre

Lifebuoy – carve a ring shape and add rope-like stripes

Compass rose – ideal for a neat, symmetrical pattern

Waves and fish – a simple option for younger carvers

Ghost pirate – add an eye patch, pirate hat or skull-and-crossbones

“Boo-y” – a buoy with a ghostly face for a nautical Halloween pun

What can you do with your leftover pumpkin?

Compost it : Cut the pumpkin into small pieces and add them to your compost heap. They'll break down and add nutrients to the compost.

Bury it: Bury small pieces in the garden to break down naturally and feed the soil and worms.

Share it with wildlife : Some birds and farm animals can eat plain pumpkin. Please don't feed pumpkin to hedgehogs. Check what is suitable for the animals nearby, and only offer fresh pumpkin that hasn't been painted, treated or left with candle wax in it.

Make a bird feeder: For a more adventurous project, fill a cleaned-out pumpkin with bird seed and hang it in a tree. Keep an eye on it and remove it once it starts to spoil.

Cook it: In the UK, pumpkin carving is more popular than cooking with pumpkins. Yet the plant can offer plenty for the kitchen: the fruit, leaves, seeds and flowers can all be eaten.



SHEPPERTON
MARINA



CHRISTMAS

— AT THE MARINA —



FAB-YULE-OUS PARTY NIGHT

HOLIDAY INN
FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER
£69 PER PERSON



ILLUMINATED MARINA

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER
PRIZE FOR THE BEST
DECORATED BOAT



CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER
FOOD & STALLS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY



MINCE PIES & MULLED WINE

1-24 DECEMBER
12PM-5PM DAILY
MARINA OFFICE



FAB-YULE-OUS PARTY NIGHT

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

THE STORYBOARD AT SHEPPERTON

Glass of fizz on arrival
Festive three-course dinner & ½ bottle of wine
DJ, dancing & festive favourites

£69 PER PERSON

BOOK IN THE MARINA OFFICE NOW



Cruise Control: Isla's Boating Playlist



LOOKING BACK ON SUMMER

Now that the boating season is drawing to a close and we look ahead to the cooler months, Isla's playlist will serve as a reminder of a wonderful summer spent on the water. She has also added some perfect tracks to accompany those all-important days spent maintaining and preparing the boat. Isla's selections capture the laid-back spirit of the 2026 boating season and bring a little extra atmosphere to every moment—both on the water and while getting ready for the adventures ahead.

A SPOOKY AUTUMN SOUNDTRACK

Now the nights are drawing in, and Halloween is creeping up on us (how has that happened?!), we've curated a spooky playlist to get us through these chilly -ber months. We'll update it throughout the season, but some highlights include the folk-y 'Farewell Transmission' by Songs: Ohia, 'The Killing Moon' by Echo and the Bunnymen, plus New Order's Blue Monday, which, with its gloomy vibe, feels appropriate now the weather is turning. Whether your boat is winterised and you're wrapped up at home, or you're on your way down to the marina for an autumnal cruise, we hope you enjoy this playlist!



SHARE YOUR BOATING MOMENTS

Join the Shepperton Marina shared photo album

Share life at the Marina - and wherever the river takes you!

Our shared album is for all your favourite moments:

- Life around the Marina
- Days out on the Thames
- Wildlife and riverside views
- Adventures beyond the Marina



SCAN TO JOIN



FROM THE MARINA TO ADVENTURES ON THE RIVER

Wherever your boat takes you, share the journey with fellow berth holders.

Please only upload photos you are happy for other album members to view.

The Log Book

★ Best customer photo



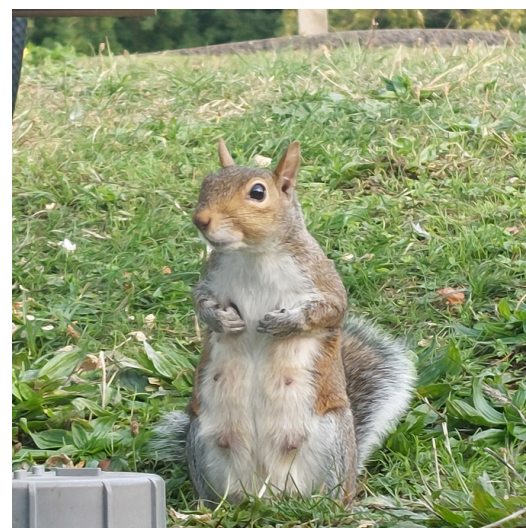
🚤 Boating Tip of the Month

Start planning your boat's winter maintenance now. If you're hoping to use a contractor, get in touch early to arrange the work. Contractor availability and lift times may vary as we approach the busy winter period.

🍹 Next Event

Our Halloween events are running in the Marina Office until 30 October, with all proceeds going to Momentum Children's Charity. And with Christmas just around the corner, keep an eye out for details of our festive events coming soon!

🦆 Wildlife Spotting of the month



🖼️ Guess this spot?



🚫 Safety Reminder of the Month

As the weather changes, decks and pontoons can become wet and slippery. Wear non-slip shoes, take your time and use handrails where available. A little extra care can help you stay safe around the marina.

GRP PRO-CLEAN

PROFESSIONAL BOAT VALETING SERVICES

Keep Your Boat Looking It's Best — All Year Round



SERIVCES

- Regular Wash-downs
- Exterior Machine Polishing
- Canopy Cleaning & Reproofing
- Hull Cleaning & Stain Removal
- Interior Boat Cleaning

SCAN QR CODE FOR A
FREE QUOTATION

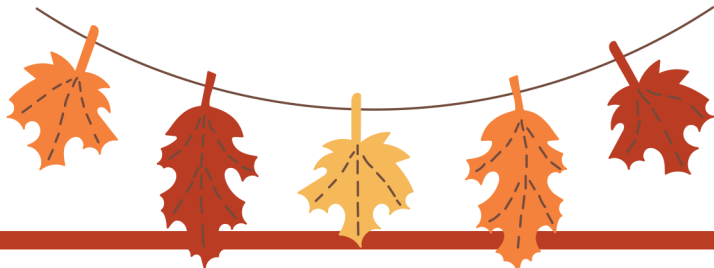


SCAN QR CODE

Or visit

www.grpro-clean.co.uk

More time enjoying your boat. Less time cleaning it.



**CLEARANCE
SALE**

**Deals throughout winter:
lindonlewismarine.co.uk/sale
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Milha fishing boats
Ex-display from £825.00

PLUS 7% off a new Tohatsu
outboard

Terms apply



Aqualine inflatable boats
From £625.00

PLUS 7% off a new Tohatsu
outboard

Terms apply



**New Tohatsu, Mercury
and Yamaha outboards**
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**Dometic Cool-Ice
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Keep ice and food for days
without a 240v hook-up