



Use of Club Plant, Machinery and Yard Facilities

H&DSC

www.hdsc.org.uk

RYA Affiliated

Established 1927

The Club is fortunate to have access to several pieces of equipment which make life easier for everybody. We are able to use these due to the tireless dedication of a few members who have the experience and qualifications to do the necessary maintenance and safety checks.

The Mobile Crane

The mobile crane is the most vital piece of kit we own. Without the ability to launch and recover over the quay, the club would probably not exist. The maximum lift capacity is 10 tons within the practical radius* which will reach over the water. The Yard master will make a judgement as to the capacity of the crane to lift your boat in consultation with the crane drivers. Any boat brought into the club by water and requiring a lift for the first time will need to be assessed.

Sophisticated new load measuring equipment has recently been installed on the crane, so an accurate weight for your boat can be made during a lift.

*The crane has to be placed well back from the quay edge due to the instability of the quay face. This requires the jib to luff out over the edge and thus reduces the maximum load capacity.

We have lifting strops and spreader bars; the latter may be necessary on beamier boats to prevent crushing loads on the hull. Ask the Yard Master if you are unsure. It is possible to add lengthening chains to a strop so that you can ensure that the boat is lifted on a level plane. Again, ask if you are unsure.

The lift strops suffer from wear and tear over a season, and in common with all lifting related items they are inspected regularly by external insurance surveyors. Please help by ensuring the strops are washed and stowed after a lift preferably when they are dry.

It is a condition of club membership that you have a minimum of 3rd-party insurance for your boat. Without evidence of this being in the hands of the Treasurer [and in turn available to the crane driver], you will be refused any lifts.

Dinghy Cranes

There are two cranes for launching dinghies and very small craft. The most used one nearest the crane has a capacity of 250 kg, and the larger one at the end of the quay will lift 300 kg.

Your dinghy will require two rope lifting strops attached to strong points, and these must be kept as short as feasible. Note that it is better if the strops have a loop or ring at the lift point. If the dinghy is out of balance when lifted, the hooks can slide along the strops and the dinghy could capsize. Also, it is a sensible precaution not to allow your waiting dinghy [if it has anyone aboard] to float underneath a dinghy which is in the process of being recovered.

If the strops are too long it is possible to wind the crane lifting wire into contact with the block at the end of the jib. This places an unnecessary strain on the motor and can damage the system, so while a lift is in progress look up to see if you are running out of wire. The tendency is to concentrate downwards on the boat being launched, and not on the crane

If the lifting snap- hooks are allowed to get wet, or worse, allowed to sit in seawater perhaps due to a rising tide, the result is premature failure. Always leave the hooks well clear of the water and it is best if they are doubled back on themselves and hooked into the lifting ring.

Please remove your dinghy trailer from the vicinity of the cranes and park them well away after launching. It is the club's aim to reserve spaces for dinghy parking nearest to the cranes for less able members. If you are able to assist in this thoughtful gesture by not parking your dinghy close to the quay, it would be appreciated.

While you are standing near the quay and you observe a member approaching the quay in their dinghy, it is traditional and courteous to lower the lifting hooks for them and to assist in the recovery of their dinghy.



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Pressure washer

The washer is diesel powered, tricky to start, and needs the correct sequence of valve movements to make it work. It is best for new members to ask for a demonstration from someone who knows how. However, it is an invaluable piece of kit come lay-up time when the boats need cleaning as they come out.

Please wash the quay after using the washer, coil the hose back on the drum, stow the lance, and top up the water tank for the next user.

Also, be aware that the spray, including the muck which has been washed off, can travel a long way downwind. If another boat is waiting for a lift alongside the quay, please have a mind to not covering their boat with dirt.

Telehoist

The club is able to assist with removing/installing inboard engines and stepping small masts using the Telehoist tractor. If you are working on an engine, more sensitive control can be achieved by the use of a chain block attached to the forks of the Telehoist. The club has suitable chain blocks. There is a list of members who are able to drive this most useful machine. It may also assist in maintenance on your trailer.

Tractor

The tractor is a modern one with 4-wheel drive. A list of drivers can be found on the club contacts page. All boat movements within the yard need to be approved by the Yard Master, so please let him know your plans in advance.

Workshop

The workshop is equipped with vices and benches along with several machine tools. It would be appreciated if you would tidy up after using the facility and keep the benches clear of junk. Ensure the lights are out and workshop is locked if you are the last one out.

The pillar drill has a chuck capacity of 12mm [$\frac{1}{2}$ "] but only one speed. Please ensure you raise the table to meet the drill bit so that the travel of the chuck is at a minimum, in this way frequent breakages of the return spring are avoided. It is better to rely on having your own drill bits/cutters.

A large and useful metalworking lathe is available along with basic tooling and measuring equipment. The use is restricted to those on the list as they have the necessary proven qualifications and/or experience to operate it safely. If you need assistance to turn up a part, please ask one of the operators.

Small equipment

These include an air compressor, arc welder, oxy-propane cutting torch, jacks, bench grinder, a selection of power and hand tools. Some of these are kept secure to ensure they are in safe working order. An electric emergency pump is available.

Welding equipment is available to those who have safety qualifications in its use; again, just ask for help.

Outboard Test Tank

Situated on the quay for the testing of outboard engines or to flush out seawater. Please try to avoid contaminating the tank with fuel or oil.



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Metal Skip

It is possible to dispose of metallic scrap in the skip. However, do not put paint tins, wood, or non-metallic waste in the skip. The disposal firm will reject it and the club is left with the problem of disposing of your waste, at some cost and/or inconvenience.

Lockers

Members can apply for a space to store outboards, oars, fuel cans etc in one of two containers. You are required to provide a suitable locker but these change hands from time to time. There is usually a waiting list.

If you are unsure about the use of any of the equipment, you will find willing club members to show you. In many cases they will offer to do the work for you in the case of welding/ oxy-propane cutting and lathe turning.

Kindly remember that all the equipment is maintained by volunteers. The working parties assist in the maintenance of the buildings, grounds and equipment so please try to attend at least four sessions during the year.