

Cargreen Yacht Club Tips for new members.

The Club has some 140 all-tide swinging moorings but only a limited number that can take a vessel with a two meter draught at Chart Datum. The moorings are accessible at all states of the tide along the Club's Causeway.

The river is generally very sheltered at Cargreen and the moorings are extremely strong and very well maintained by our Moorings Officer and Bargemaster. It is important to have adequate strops and fair-leads for the job, do follow advice on this topic to be found on our website.

The tidal streams run quite strongly and in very strong northerly or sou-easterly blows, this can sometimes create a chop against the tide making dinghy work wet and uncomfortable. In these circumstances it is better to wait to near high or low water for dinghy work.

It is recommended that you arrange a suitable tender with good freeboard that can ferry out passengers and stores etc comfortably in a chop. A reliable small outboard is almost essential, 2.5 HP is sufficient for a small tender. A big heavy dinghy can be hard going when hauling it along the Causeway. The Causeway itself has a good hard surface, there are a number of trolleys for members use to the **right of the slipway**. An alternative is to fit wheels on your tender which avoids having to collect and return a trolley from the end of the Causeway – it is a long walk when tired after a hard sail! A spray cover for the bow can be useful, as are plastic storage boxes with lids for keeping gear dry. Most of us use an old dinghy for getting out to the mooring then leave it on the mooring when away sailing. There is no objection to this but seagulls/terns can be a nuisance from the end of August as they consider tenders as good roosting spots!

In this regard an inflatable tender has an advantage; it can be readily capsized to wash it off before being used to go ashore! Lifejackets should be worn at all times when using a dinghy.

Do not drive a vehicle on the Causeway - you are liable to get stuck and swamp the vehicle when the tide comes in, as a number of people have found out to their (uninsured) cost over the years!

The launching and recovery of jet skis from the Causeway is forbidden by our lease with the Duchy of Cornwall, jet skis may only be launched from the 'slip' above the Causeway or from the beach.

Tenders (hard and inflatable) can be kept on the foreshore to the **left of the slipway** at the Club site free of charge. Select your position on a free-for-all basis. Mark the tender clearly with your name or name of boat; a telephone contact number is a good idea too. Unidentified tenders may be removed. The path between the 'Toastracks' and the foreshore must be kept clear. Old mooring chain has been lain along the beach so that tenders can be secured against theft or floating away. Inflatable dinghies can be kept in the "toast-racks" subject to availability and for a small annual charge; please apply to the Moorings Officer to see if a "slot" is available. There are also a secure outboard motor storage sheds; again please apply to the Moorings Officer if you want to stow your OBM here. However space in the shed is very restricted and it will be wise to plan on taking the motor home with you to start with. A plastic liner tray or sheet is advisable in the car boot.

Cars can be parked at the site when sailing, but if you are away for any length of time please use the "overflow" field across the road from the clubhouse to avoid cluttering up the main site. Do not block the tractor access gates leading to the field beyond the overflow field. Please **do not park your vehicle in the village**.

Security is excellent in the Cargreen area. Break-ins are rare, nevertheless We would advise against leaving an outboard motor visible if it can be avoided. Otherwise securely lock it. We run a "Boatwatch" system where each mooring holder is asked to carry out surveillance of the mooring patch on one or two nights each year according to a programme published by our Boat Watch Manager.

Incidentally the rate of fouling is quite high at Cargreen probably associated with nutrients in the water from agricultural run-off. A medium strength anti-foul paint is recommended rather than an economy brew.

Fair winds!