



POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS
LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS
POOLE HARBOUR

No. 04/2008

3rd April 2008

This notice supersedes LNTM No.01/2007

Displacement Effect of Ships in Middle Ship Channel

It is evident that on occasions there can be a significant displacement effect when large vessels enter and transit the Middle Ship Channel. When a vessel is stopped it displaces a volume of water equivalent to the vessels size below the waterline. As the vessel moves through the water, the hole left behind quickly fills, sucking water from the shallow areas either side of the main channel. This is more evident over the soldier bank between the Middle Ship and Wych Channels, towards the Personal Watercraft Zone. This area is also prone to bow and stern waves from the larger vessels that transit Poole Harbour. These effects are often unpredictable and can take small boat mariners completely by surprise, even when they are transiting the small boat channel adjacent to the Middle Ship Channel.

This notice is to remind mariners of the potential risk, and to keep a special lookout when they are navigating in the vicinity of a large ship transiting the Middle Ship Channel, particularly at low water.

CCTV is in operation in Poole Harbour. Recordings may be used in evidence to prosecute byelaw offenders.

Mariners are reminded that Radar, telephone and VHF Channels are also recorded.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Murphy', is written over a faint, light blue circular stamp or watermark.

BRIAN MURPHY
HARBOUR MASTER