



EAST COAST RIVERS Cruising Companion 2008 edition

Amendments and Updates for 2010

ORFORD RIVER

pp. 25, 26, 27 and 28

Orford Haven Buoy position remains unchanged

In early May the positions of Oxley and Weir buoys were as follows:

Oxley 52.01.68N 01.27.51E

Weir 52.01.75N 01.27.28E

Weir having been moved slightly from its original position in April.

Full details of the buoy positions and an aerial photo of Orford Haven can be seen on

www.eastcoastrivers.com

THE RIVER DEBEN

pp.43, 44, 45, 46 and 47

Woodbridge Haven Buoy position remains unchanged

In early May the positions of the West Knoll and Mid Knoll buoys were as follows:

West Knoll 51.58.40N 01.23.56E

Mid Knoll 51.58.69N 01.23.41E

Full details and a downloadable chartlet can be found on www.eastcoastrivers.com

The chart is based on a survey carried out by Stephen Read (assistant Felixstowe Ferry Harbourmaster) of Marine Surveys East and South for Chris Woods (eastcoastrivers.com)

p.55 Woodbridge Port Guide

Repairs

Add: Granary Yacht Harbour, Mel Skeet, 36ton hoist, Tel:386327, www.granary-yacht-harbour.co.uk

Food and Drink

The Captain's Table in Quay Street is no longer but on the same site is now the Moorish Lounge, a café restaurant serving Mediterranean-style food (closed Mondays). Tel: 388508.

HARWICH HARBOUR

pp 59, 60

The 2009 exclusion zone in the Harwich Shelf area is discontinued as the dredging work there has finished. The recommended yacht track is to the west of the dredged channel between Cliff Foot and Guard leaving Harwich Shelf close to port. Reconfiguration work started in 2008 on the Port of Felixstowe container berths is still ongoing. The exclusion zone known as Felixstowe South Reconfiguration Works Area is still in place. Channel 71 (Harwich VTS) should be monitored as usual.

THE RIVER COLNE**p.97 Brightlingsea Port Guide**

Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners have an excellent website:

www.brightlingseaharbour.org

Water Taxi now run by Ian Hunter Tel: 07535 508537

The Harbour Office makes local OS maps available to those wishing to explore the area on foot (there is a returnable £10 deposit).

p.96 Commercial Freighters.... The scrap metal trade has now ceased but there is a regular trade of wood waste to Sweden from The Wharf.

THE RIVER BLACKWATER**p.103 West Mersea Port Guide****Launch Services**

West Mersea Yacht Club boatman is Andrew Twidell, assisted by Stacey Ely. Call sign and telephone remain the same.

There is now a charge to visiting yachtsmen of £2 per trip. Take your launch receipt to the WMYC bar and spend more than £5, and your return trip will be free.

THE RIVER CROUCH**p. 117 Ron Pipe Safe Water Mark**

In August 2009, following reports of shoal water close south of the Ron Pipe safe water mark, the buoy was moved approximately 100metres north of its previous position. It is now in approx 6m at LAT. Similar depths exist both north and south of the buoy but the edge of Swallow Tail Bank to the south of the buoy shoals rapidly. Mariners are therefore advised, if passing S of the Ron Pipe SWM, to pass reasonably close – within, say, 100m – of the buoy, and monitor depth sounders carefully.

THE RIVER THAMES**p.147 Rt hand col para 3**

Amend ‘...to keep clear of the freight terminal at Canvey, Shellhaven and Coryton.’ to read ‘...to keep clear of the London Gateway Port Reclamation Area at Thames Haven.’

p.149 Chart River Thames Thames Haven to Crayford Ness

The jetties at Thames Haven are now part of the London Gateway Port Reclamation Area where work is still in progress during 2010.

p.157 Limehouse Basin Marina – Gas

Thanks to reader Judy Harrison for letting us know that Gas is no longer available from the Docklands Gardens Centre (which has been demolished). However, both Calor and Camping Gaz can be ordered from London Beer Gas Tel: 02088074633. They will deliver free next day to any London marina.

THE SWALE

p. 176 Milton Creek

Construction has begun on the Sittingbourne Northern Distribution Road, which initially involves building bridge piers from the E and W banks of Milton Creek. Associated work will take place at Church Wharf on the W bank and there may be occasional river closures. The work is expected to be completed by April 2011.

CROSS ESTUARY ROUTES

Sunk Beacon (never an official navigation mark) has gone and is now an Obstn at 51.39.43N 01.20.63E

pp.186, 190 Gore Channel

Red can buoy QR E Last has been moved from 51.24.07N 01.11.92E to 51.24.01N 01.12.05E

NB Trinity House survey suggests that the channel between E Last and Hook Spit is narrowing

p.188 Wind Farms

Work on the London Array offshore wind farm continues.

The 49-turbine Gunfleet wind farm is now operational.

Construction is now underway on the installation of 100 turbines for the huge Thanet wind farm (approx 8 miles NE of N Foreland). A safety zone marked by lit buoys has been established around the works. Submarine power cables will come ashore at Pegwell Bay.

RAMSGATE

p.194 Entering the Harbour

Reports in early 2010 suggest that since the last dredging, not only has the sand bank built up again from the E Pier, but also within the Royal Harbour silting has occurred and some visitor pontoons in the West Marina have been affected.

Another dredging operation is due to take place before the end of May. It may be advisable to check availability of berths beforehand if you plan to visit early in the season.