

ONBOARD



Port of Milford Haven

Spring 2022 | Issue 14
News from the Port of Milford Haven



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New Commercial Manager



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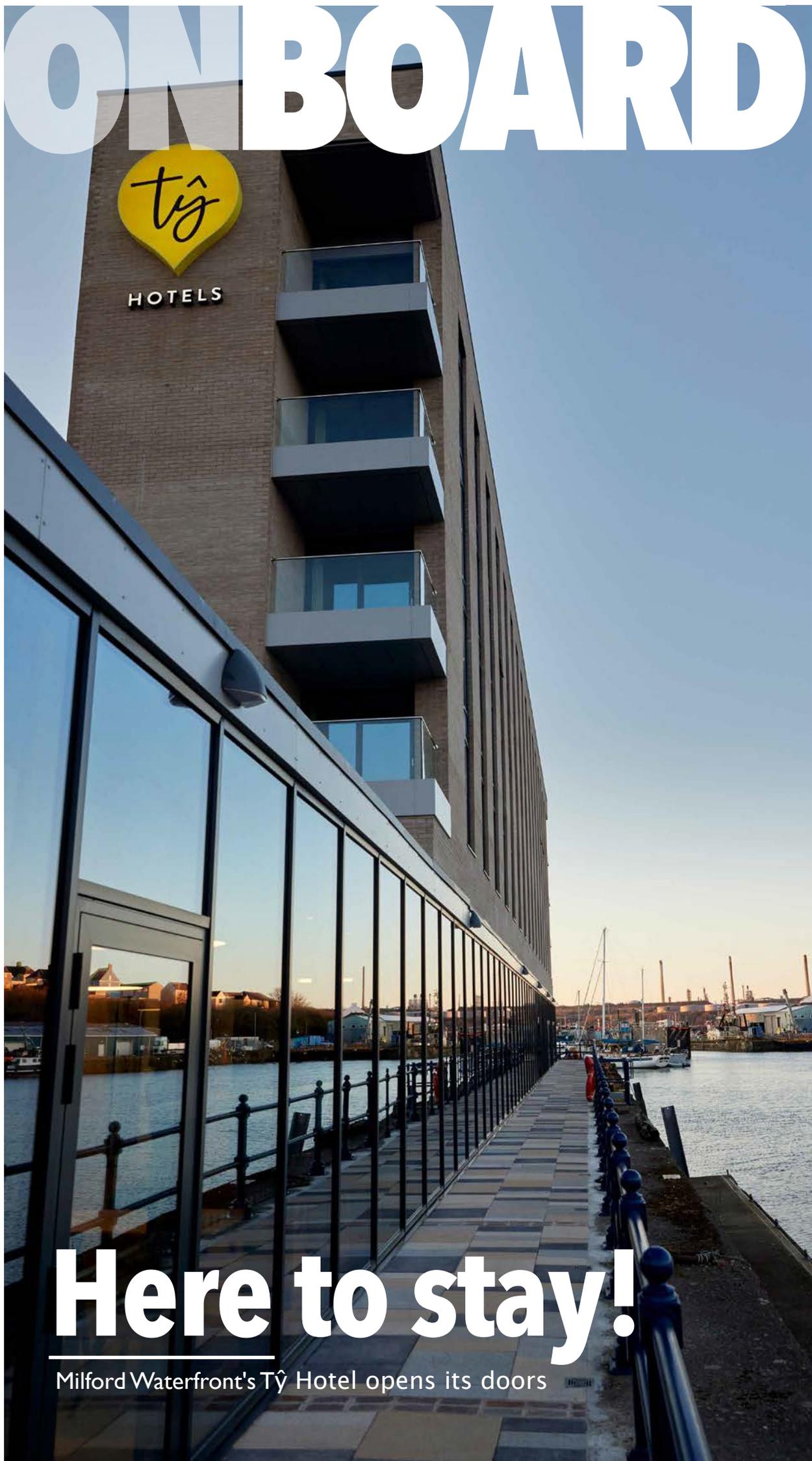
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Hello,

By the time you read this, I will have left!

I've not gone far. I have left the Port of Milford Haven, where I enjoyed some of the most memorable professional and personal moments of my working life. But I am staying right here in Pembrokeshire.

To say that plenty has happened in the decade that I've been here would be an understatement. But how would I choose to summarise my years at the Port? The sum is quite simple. I add up all the people I have met, both inside and outside this organisation, the friends I have made, and it all adds up to a brilliant experience that I can take away as a reward for the time I have served.

So, when people ask me where I am going next, my answer is this: why would I want to leave Pembrokeshire? I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

I will miss everyone at the Port. We've had our fair share of adversity, but that has only created stronger bonds. This being Pembrokeshire, I will see everyone around, but it is that regular interaction that I'll miss.

The people I have worked with have helped shaped my life. I hope that in some way I have had a positive impact on them, their careers, their personal lives. I've always wanted us as a team to understand our purpose – why we do what we do. To reduce that process down to its most simple form, it helps me to think how what I do makes people's lives better. That's why I have found the Trust status of the Port of Milford Haven such a good fit with my personal values because that's how the Port's purpose should be judged too.

To that end, what impact have we made on people's lives? Taking a snapshot of the business today, I look at what has happened at Milford Waterfront as an example and see something that has really clicked. It's becoming a vibrant destination that people come to and enjoy from all over Pembrokeshire and beyond, thanks in part to the new hotel. I am very proud of our Destination team but equally proud of the community of Milford Haven. They wanted this to happen and despite - or maybe because



of - many robust conversations over the years, the passion of local businesses and community leaders to help Milford Waterfront become what it is today has made a real difference.

It's less easy to see right now, but Pembrokeshire Port is on the cusp of an equally exciting era. The possibilities presented by marine renewables, particularly floating offshore wind, are huge. Perhaps it is because so much is happening out of sight that I don't see the same sense of optimism amongst the community there yet. But I know that if they embrace the coming revolution there are huge opportunities for the people of Pembrokeshire Dock and our future generations, to be part of a valuable and sustainable industry.

I leave the Port at a very exciting time. Everywhere I look I see possibilities, with groundwork laid and roads opened towards positive ends.

To my successor, Tom, I say good luck! And my advice would be this: the more of yourself you put into this community, the more you'll get out.

Goodbye and see you around

Andy Jones Chief Executive (Outgoing)



Thanks Andy and a brief message of introduction from me,

I can't recall feeling more excited about taking up a role; new sector, new colleagues, new stakeholders, new learnings and new communities. My wife's family is from Haverfordwest, and I know Pembrokeshire as a very regular visitor; it's a place we love and where we have forged some of our happiest memories. Pembrokeshire has been very kind to us.

And so the chance of taking up the Custodianship of the Trust Port is one that I found irresistible, the more so as the role extends well beyond our essential central function of safely and efficiently moving and supporting ships, and embraces the long-term prosperity, diversity and wellness of our communities and their relevance to the county, Wales and the UK. We occupy a corner of Wales that as the physical and psychological western gateway to the UK often feels a very long way from the heart of where policy is shaped. That can make it hard to win the arguments and debates that will ready and position Pembrokeshire as a central part of the nation's future energy and maritime enterprise. I'm really looking forward to building on the excellent work undertaken to date and working with colleagues and stakeholders to take our case to governments to secure the investment that our region needs.

You will hear more from me in due course, but let me close for now by wishing Andy every success and happiness in whatever the next chapter has in store.

Tom Sawyer Chief Executive (Incoming)

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Design: BearFourteen
Print: Forrest Print

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FROM 'PORTS, PAST AND PRESENT' TO A 'SEA OF STORIES'

People have moved between Ireland and Wales for thousands of years — some for trade or leisure, some for religious, political or family reasons. Focusing on the port areas of Dublin, Rosslare, Holyhead, Fishguard and Pembroke Dock, the 'Ports, Past and Present' project is exploring the shared stories that link these islands.

It aims to bring life and colour to the ports through art and heritage, launching a series of new artworks, tourist films and an app for visitors across the summer of 2022.

Among these artworks is 'Sea of Stories', a ceramic mural that maps the Irish Sea, by the Pembrokeshire artist Robert Jakes (www.robertjakes.co.uk). Combining words and striking images, Robert captures the richness of life on and beneath the waves through time, from Viking treasure to wartime history, with ecological insights and even a contemporary postcard by a local resident. Each tile holds a story in miniature, and the project team hopes that the mural will inspire journeys of curiosity for those who encounter it. 'Sea of Stories' can be seen in the café area at Pembroke Dock Ferry Terminal, which is publicly accessible around the times of the ferry's arrival and departure.

'Ports, Past and Present'
is also running an exciting series of events and exhibitions between May and October 2022.

For news and further information, see
<https://portspastpresent.eu>

'Ports, Past and Present: Cultural Crossings between Ireland and Wales' is run by University College Cork and Wexford County Council in Ireland, and the University of Wales Trinity St David and Aberystwyth University in Wales. The project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Ireland Wales Cooperation programme.



Work has begun on renovating the hangar annexes at Pembroke Port.

PEMBROKE DOCK MARINE WORKS UNDERWAY

Work has begun at Pembroke Port to convert the annexes attached to the historic Sunderland Hangars into flexible modern workspaces as part of the £60 million Pembroke Dock Marine project.

The Port of Milford Haven is one of four partners of Pembroke Dock Marine focused on creating spaces that will help the marine renewables industry to fabricate, launch and maintain devices and ultimately become a world-class energy and engineering centre of excellence to capture the enormous potential that wind, wave and tidal energy have to offer.

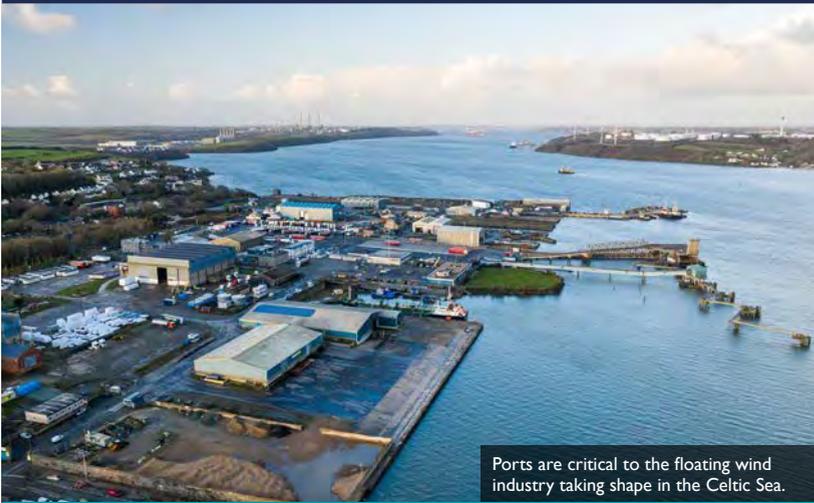


The completed annexes will be modern flexible workspaces.

The first phase started in November with the arrival of contractor R&M Williams. They're tasked with renovating the four Grade II listed Hangar Annexes with work expected to be completed by Spring 2023. A public competition was held to give local people the chance to name the new workspaces and a panel of community representatives had the tough challenge of selecting just four. The winning suggestions were **Oleander House, Catalina House, Falcon House** and **Erebus House**, all of which have strong links to the local area. Congratulations to Tyler Streitberger, the Pembroke Dock Heritage Trust, Marie Sampson, Victoria Allen and David Lockwood who submitted the names and will be invited to the official opening.

All planning and listed building consents have now been granted for Phase I of the Pembroke Dock Marine project which means work will soon begin on creating a mega slipway at Pembroke Port, along with workboat pontoons.

Pembroke Dock Marine is a partnership project between the Port of Milford Haven, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult, Marine Energy Wales and Celtic Sea Power. It is funded by the UK Government and Welsh Government through the Swansea Bay City Deal, and through the public and private sectors. It is also part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.



Ports are critical to the floating wind industry taking shape in the Celtic Sea.



Commercial Director at the Port Steve Edwards (left) with Managing Director of Williams Shipping Philip Williams (right) at Pembroke Port.

NEW COLLABORATION TO DELIVER FLOATING WIND FOR WALES

The UK's largest energy port, the Port of Milford Haven, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Wales' biggest power producer, RWE, to investigate the scaling-up of port facilities to support the growth of offshore wind in the Celtic Sea. RWE has also partnered and signed an MoU with Associated British Ports (ABP).

Working together, industry leaders will investigate the potential of transforming infrastructure at both Pembroke Dock and Port Talbot with a vision for the two ports to be hubs for the manufacture, assembly, loadout and operation and maintenance of high-tech floating wind turbines and foundations. The companies will share knowledge and expertise, carrying out technical assessments, feasibility studies and economic impact studies in order to maximise the benefits in terms of jobs, skills and long-term future investments.

Andy Jones, CEO at the Port of Milford Haven, said "Our MoU with RWE marks the start of a very exciting future for the economy of South Wales. Maximising the existing skills, industrial and natural assets that surround the Port will ensure Wales realises the full economic benefit of floating offshore wind, providing significant supply chain opportunities, well-paid careers for future generations and a stronger, greener Welsh economy."

WILLIAMS SHIPPING'S 15-YEAR COMMITMENT TO PEMBROKESHIRE

Williams Shipping has committed to Pembroke Port for the next 15 years with the signing of a new lease. The company has been here since 2004 and provides many different services to the port including navigation mark servicing, stores deliveries to ships at the oil and gas terminals and crew transfers.

Managing Director, Philip Williams, has said that it allows them to invest further into the infrastructure and vessels that will operate from the port: "We have mobilised a 22m multicat, 'Willendeavour', to Pembroke Port where it will now be based alongside our existing fleet including a 15m multicat and 16m tug. In addition, we have invested in a replacement 70t crawler crane and will soon be basing one of our fast passenger launches in the Haven to enable faster crew changes."

One of the greatest benefits of its location is the deep-water quayside within Pembroke Port. Philip added "Together with the Port, we will be investing in improving the berthing pontoons at Quay 3, further enhancing our capabilities in supporting marine activity."

For more information visit:
www.pembrokemarinerenewables.co.uk



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Game Changer

It's a crowning moment of a 10-year strategy - the opening of Tŷ Hotel Milford Waterfront, operated by the team behind the internationally acclaimed Celtic Manor Resort, is already drawing people from far beyond our borders. The 100-bed hotel, with its iconic look and terrific views, opened this spring and everyone is very excited. As we all get familiar with a new landmark on the Waterfront, it's a good time to take stock of how much things have changed in the heart of Milford Haven in just one decade.

"When I first started working at the Port of Milford Haven, I remember wondering why tourists coming down the M4 used to turn left at Bristol and head to Cornwall," said Andy Jones, the Port's chief executive. *"It was clear to me we weren't offering enough of the right product here in West Wales,"* he added.

Just one year into Andy's then role as finance director, the Port of Milford Haven launched a master plan for Milford Dock, with an ambition to lure just some of those potential visitors each year and create hundreds of jobs within a new high quality destination economy.

Exactly ten years on, Milford Waterfront, as it became known, has come a long way in delivering on that master plan. It is a vibrant destination already famed for its big set piece events and festivals as well as being a popular place to shop, eat and drink.

But the Port's Destination team knew that creating more accommodation that would attract travellers to come and stay in numbers was vital if they were to pull more outside spend into the local economy. For several years



Commanding – Ian Edwards, CEO of Celtic Collections and the Port's Andy Jones take in the views from one of the bedroom balconies at Tŷ Milford Waterfront.

the Port searched in vain for the right partners willing to build a first-class hotel to crown the site.

"With regards to the hotel, in the end it became our mission to build the right product," said Andy.

"It was clear we had to put our money where our mouth was!"

Andy Jones, CEO Port of Milford Haven.

The Port's eventual decision to 'own' the delivery of a quality hotel left them needing to find an operator. Their call caught the attention of the Celtic Collection's chief executive Ian Edwards and his team at Celtic

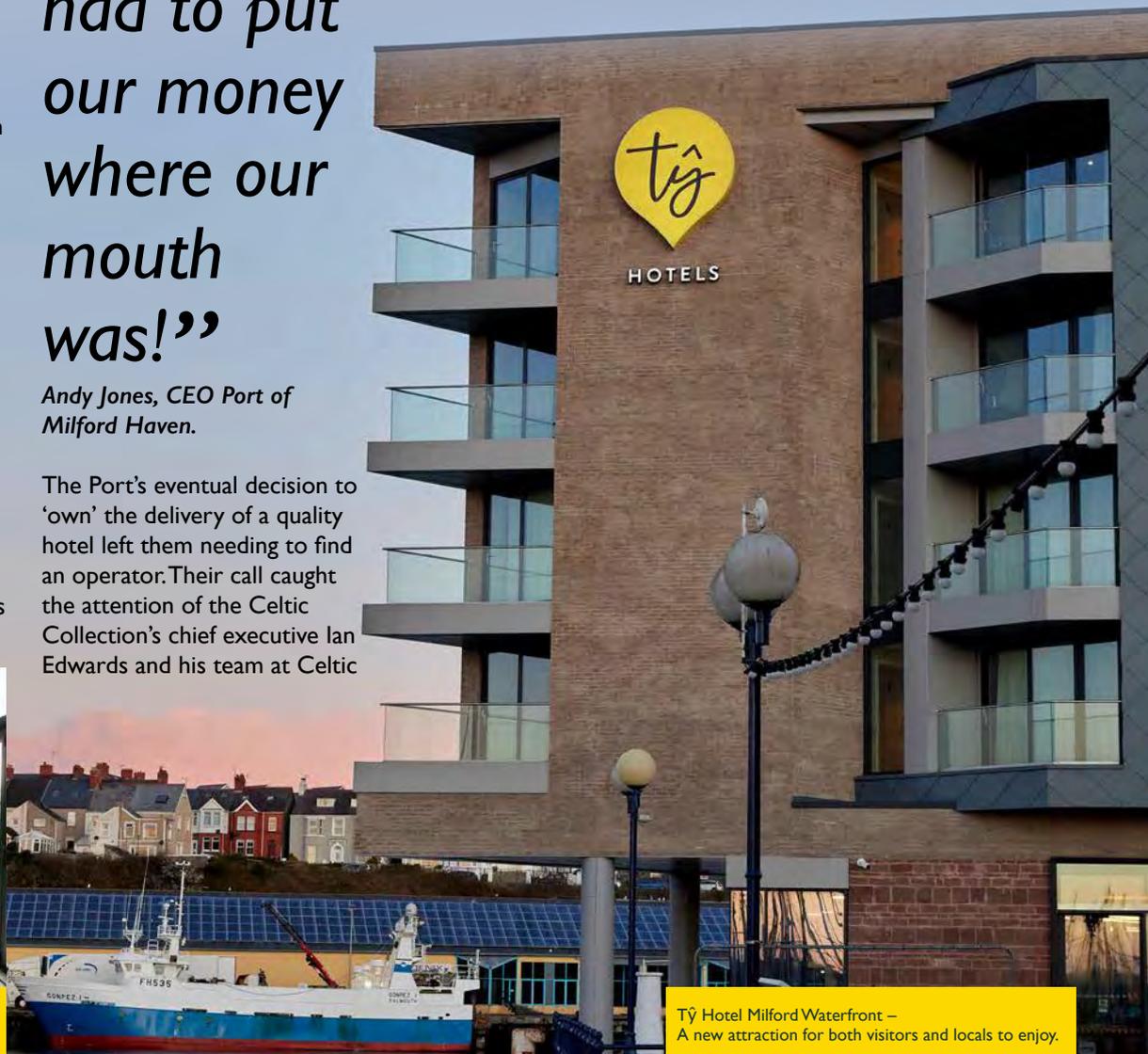
Manor and they agreed to enter a partnership with the Port to take on the hotel.

On the day of the press and VIP launch this March, standing in the new bar area as the final touches were being added in preparation for the Easter open date, Ian reflected on the moment the idea of a partnership first formed.

"At first we thought, 'Why would a port do something like that?'" he said. *"We got talking and were so impressed by the vision and blown away by their local engagement,"* he added.

So, a partnership was forged with a vision and financial intent from the Port brought to life with the huge experience and firepower of the Celtic Collection team, owners of the Celtic Manor Resort, famous for hosting the Ryder Cup and a NATO Summit.

For Ian, the Ryder Cup provided a parallel. *"We had a 1% chance of winning that bid,"* he explained. *"We won it and it was a game changer. In the same way, there was a 1% chance of getting a Tŷ Hotel partnership off the ground here. We did it and I think it will be a game changer for Pembrokeshire, too,"* he added.



Mission accomplished – Port CEO Andy Jones greeted guests at a press and VIP launch on St David's Day. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

Tŷ Hotel Milford Waterfront – A new attraction for both visitors and locals to enjoy.

The hotel is impressive. Beyond the open reception, a spacious bar and dining area with its high ceilings and top to bottom glass windows, looks out over the marina and working fish docks. The view tells so much of the story of Milford Haven and the hotel seems to take pride in its own place in that story. Views from the luxurious bedrooms are even better, some with panoramas all the way from the Rath to Hakin with the Waterway dominating the vista.

For Ian Edwards and his team, Tŷ Milford Waterfront now shares space in the same portfolio as Celtic Manor as well as several other luxury and boutique hotels built and operated by the Celtic Collection brand around Wales. They put Newport on the world map back in 2010 and again in 2014 when President Obama visited, so they know a thing or two about the impact one business can have on its surrounding area.

“What an opportunity to drive a visitor economy!” he enthused. *“The Port is clearly so passionate about the project and the simple fact is, if you own it, you’ll make it work.”*



Home Run

The opening of Tŷ Milford Waterfront is a headline moment in the story of the docks’ rebirth. The Port had a clear commercial interest in developing assets that had long been in economic decline following the scaling back of the fishing industry. However, its trust port status gave it a mandate to invest in a way that would benefit Pembrokeshire, through creating new jobs and promoting economic wellbeing.

By any measure, the fact that the new hotel has created direct employment for more than 40 full time staff is cause to cheer. But Pembrokeshire’s ability to create jobs that excite and challenge school leavers keen for a rewarding career path in their own county, is also paramount.

Emma Thornton is CEO of Visit Pembrokeshire, the trade body representing the sector and helping it grow sustainably. She and her team work closely with the Port of Milford Haven and others to develop a county-wide tourism strategy focused on creating dividends for locals across Pembrokeshire.

“The tourism industry is a key economic driver here,” said Emma. *“We welcomed 7 million visitors in 2019 which was worth £590m to the local economy, employing more than a fifth of our workforce. Tŷ Milford Waterfront adds something we didn’t yet have - large capacity, high quality accommodation that is centrally located. It also puts a great area on the map, overshadowed by better known coastal hotspots,”* she added.

And the fact that the new hotel has attracted not one, but two hospitality professionals at the top of their game back to the county they came from, is surely a sign of a plan coming together.

Sy Crockford is the hotel’s executive head chef, a Tenby boy who worked in the tourist town’s restaurants before his culinary talents took him up the M4 to a 5* hotel in Cardiff and then onto the Celtic Manor Resort. He leaped at the chance of leading Celtic Collection’s kitchen at its newest hotel.

“I saw and felt the potential of the new hotel,” he recalls, after visiting Milford Waterfront last year. *“It feels like a new type of Pembrokeshire that I wanted to be part of,”* he added.

“I have to pinch myself to be honest,” says Adrian Andrews, the hotel’s manager. Adrian started



Tenby boys, Adrian Andrews and Sy Crockford, worked at top destinations across the UK before leaping at the chance to work their magic back home in Pembrokeshire at Tŷ Milford Waterfront.

his career in Tenby. Having worked his way to the top in hotels across the UK, he’s found the perfect posting right back home where he began. *“Pembrokeshire is an amazing county and I’m delighted to be home. And to be a part of this amazing team is a genuine honour and privilege,”* he said.

Sy and Adrian know the industry well and their decision to move back suggests Tŷ Milford Waterfront is the “right product” that, a decade ago, Port CEO Andy Jones said we needed more of in the county.

“
It feels like a
new type of
Pembrokeshire
”

**Sy Crockford, executive head chef
at Tŷ Milford Waterfront.**

Both Adrian and Sy are clear about what they want the hotel to be known for. *“Service has to be at the heart of what we offer,”* says Adrian. *“Guests can expect a genuine authentic Welsh welcome where the service is effortless, and the guest wants for nothing.”*

For Sy, the restaurant, Dulse, is a celebration of its location - his homeland. *“I want Dulse to be at the heart of Pembrokeshire’s food scene and a go-to destination,”* he says.

Both men share another hope: a product of both this new hotel and of their own legacy as professionals who’ve returned home to work here. *“I want to see us creating a new generation of home-grown talented chefs from Pembrokeshire,”* says Sy. Adrian agrees.

“We want to work with the local colleges and training providers to support local school leavers - like we once were - as they look to enter the workplace and develop their career. It is a fantastic industry.”

Living the dream

Sharon Adams is a 'connections' person. The new commercial manager for Pembroke Port (she started at the end of 2021) states she has a black book the size of War and Peace, and she's not afraid to use it. Where better to be than a Port, then, where connections are at the beginning and end of everything that goes on.

Energetic and positive, Sharon thrives on making new connections, a skill honed working more than 25 years in hospitality and events management. Her role at the Port sees her making full use of an outgoing manner and experience in customer service, as she develops new and growing markets, as well as looking after existing clients.

It was her last few years spent at Chambers Wales, the independent Chamber of Commerce arm in South Wales, that gave her valuable insight into the challenges faced by import- and export-based businesses and caught the Port of Milford Haven's eye.

"The Chamber gave me the opportunity to use the skills and connections I had to do something good for other businesses," explained Sharon. "We worked throughout the pandemic and I found it quite harrowing working with company owners whose businesses were literally falling away beneath their feet. But it was very satisfying connecting them up and getting them help," she said.

Originally from Keynsham, a village tucked between Bristol and Bath, Sharon has spent a career tracking the M4 corridor. However, one holiday visit to Pembrokeshire was enough to persuade her that west is most definitely best, even if she didn't realise at the time.

"I went on holiday to Bluestone and didn't leave there for 3 years," Sharon said. "I was sitting in their pub and thought I could really add something to their business, so I emailed them my CV. Before I knew it, they sent a manager in to find me and I interviewed (after my spa treatment) and got the job while I was still there!" she laughed. "I remember driving home and phoning my parents and saying I was moving to West Wales."

After finishing at Bluestone and returning to work in Cardiff for the next few years, it was only during a training session that used buried memories to better understand motivations, that she identified a recollection of walking onto Pendine beach with a dog as a fundamental moment of personal fulfilment.

This revelation drove Sharon to return to West Wales in search of a perfect work/life (life/work, as she puts it) balance. She took a job at a hotel in Laugharne, moving home to be within a stone's throw of Pendine beach, with her dog, before eventually taking up her role at Chambers Wales. "I was quite literally living the dream," she recalled.

"There are so many opportunities here," Sharon said, her thoughts turning to work here at the Port. "We are on the cusp of something very exciting with daily enquiries about marine renewables for example. But there is also diversification of the existing oil and gas based businesses that will bring new opportunities," she continued. "We all need to collaborate - Wales as a whole - to make this happen. As businesses we need to fight to have a piece of the action."

And how is life working for the UK's energy port?

"The culture here is amazing," she replied enthusiastically. "I've never worked for an organisation that actually encourages you to switch off when you're not at work. It's incredible!"

“
We are on
the cusp of
something very
exciting
”

Sharon Adams,
Commercial Manager



Pembroke Port's commercial manager Sharon Adams is living the dream. Credit: Owen Howells Photography



MILFORD HAVEN - WHERE THE ICE CREAM COMES FROM!

Milford Haven born and bred Carl Wonnacott worked in law enforcement for 25 years but is now enjoying a sweeter career in the ice cream industry.

When Carl finished working for the Home Office he trained as a Barista at the London

School of Coffee after becoming fascinated with coffee while working in South America. He successfully ran The Bean Mobile Espresso Bar which he took to events around Wales, including at Milford Waterfront.

Carl forged a relationship with the Port by working with them at Milford Waterfront events. He was then asked to take on the challenge of transforming the old Docks Police Office in order to attract more visitors to the area near the lock gates. In 2016, The Scoop Ice Cream Parlour and Coffee Shop opened.

In 2021, as he approached his sixth season and with the challenges that Covid-19 presented, he wanted to grow his family business which his mum and daughters are an integral part of. That is when the Ice Creamery was launched and now the Wonnacott family make their own homemade ice cream to sell in The Scoop

and other local outlets. They like to use locally sourced ingredients where possible, and the fresh whole milk used to make the ice cream comes from the happy herd at Steynton Farm. Over the years the team have grown their range from starting out with a freezer which could hold 7 flavours to displaying 24 of their range of homemade ice cream flavours in The Scoop at any time. Overall, they make over 50 flavours, so the choice is always changing!

Carl is certainly proud of his Milford roots, commenting "I have seen how much Milford Waterfront has developed over the years, and it's the perfect place to come to eat, to enjoy spectacular events and views of the Waterway. I'm also a berth holder at Milford Marina and live by Milford Fish Docks, so I couldn't really think of a better place to set up an Ice Creamery, to make ice cream to sell right here in Milford Haven."

HOLIDAY HOMES TAKEN CARE OF

Founded in 2011 by Paul and Penny Hows, NetLet UK has grown year on year and is now a successful holiday let, housekeeping and commercial laundry business based at Milford Waterfront.

After starting out providing housekeeping services and holiday accommodation in Pembrokeshire, it soon became clear there was a niche in the hospitality market for a full management service so the couple invested in the latest equipment to expand their laundry offering. Today NetLet is firmly established within the county employing up to 50 members of staff during the height of the season.

Their property portfolio is a varied one depending on what type of holiday you're looking for. They have everything from luxury apartments to smaller country style getaways and have another twenty plus properties joining their books this season.

Managing Director, Emma Taylor, has been with the company for three years and is enjoying the new challenge: "What I love is the sense of community within the business. NetLet aims to continue to have a positive impact on Pembrokeshire as a whole by supporting local businesses, community members and visiting individuals, while becoming as eco-minded as possible."

For more details, visit: www.netletuk.co.uk



Emma Taylor, Managing Director at NetLet UK



Selkie device

TESTING THE WATERS

Wales wants to lead the world in marine renewable energy, providing energy security and high quality jobs in a sustainable industry for future generations. By 2050, it's estimated that 10% of electricity supplies could come from harnessing the power of our oceans, but we'll only get there if we can overcome the challenges of the marine environment.

Marine Energy Wales has developed META, a Marine Energy Test Area, in the Milford Haven

Waterway to allow researchers, developers and manufacturers to test devices safely and cost-effectively. For the first stages of testing components or small-scale devices, there are five easy to access sheltered quayside sites at Warrior Way and near Pembroke Port. Full-scale devices can then go on for testing in Phase 2 areas which are three open water sites at Dale Roads and East Pickard Bay. All benefit from having specialist supply chain skills and world-class facilities right on the doorstep.

Two deployments are already underway. Swansea University have been trialling a new triangular-framed instrument (pictured) to measure the speed of tidal currents. Developed with partners at the SELKIE project, the aim is to help developers pinpoint much more accurately where turbines would be most effective. MEECE (the Marine Engineering Centre of Excellence) are also due to launch a buoy at the Dale Roads

site to test the load bearing on mooring lines (pictured).

Abi Beck, Communications Manager at Marine Energy Wales, said "Business interest is building now and we're keen to hear more from the local supply chain – including engineers, fabricators, and the wider marine service industry. In order to break into the growing energy market, they need to be able to test products and solutions within budgets and on time. META provides that opportunity for the early stages of research and development."



MEECE buoy

The Invisible Power

You know when energy is on the move on the Waterway. With millions of tonnes of oil and LNG rumbling past St Ann's Head each year, there's a significant visual cue. Then there's the extensive infrastructure and the hundreds of local people focused on servicing the industry. It's fitting really, when you consider the vital role this delivered energy plays in all our lives.

But there is another, almost invisible power flow on the Waterway that also serves the UK's energy needs: Pembroke Power Station, built and operated by German company RWE and now in its 10th year of operation. You won't hear it and it's relatively well-hidden, but it produces enough energy to power all of Wales' homes twice over.

Pembroke Power Station is one of the most advanced and efficient gas-powered generators in the world. Its presence here in Pembrokeshire comes as an almost inevitable consequence of the Waterway's status as the UK's largest energy port.

In 1970, a decade after the first arrival of tankers in Milford Haven, the Central Electricity Generating Board started making electricity by burning oil at

Pembroke Power Station. A pipeline fed the oil from terminals on the Haven. To export the electricity to the rest of the UK, new power lines had to be built between Pembroke and Swansea.

After almost thirty years, the power station closed, its iconic tower finally demolished in 2000. But in March 2009 a new type of tanker sailed into the Waterway. Liquefied natural gas had arrived. The ready availability of large quantities of methane close to the site of the former power station, at the end of the giant 400KV National Grid power lines had given RWE npower (as it was called at the time) all the reasons it could need to site Europe's largest and most advanced gas-fired power station here.

Gas is the cleanest-burning hydrocarbon, producing around half the CO₂ of coal when burnt to generate electricity. However, it wasn't just its ability to deliver a quick win in the race to clean up our power generation that made it attractive. Gas was also a perfect transition fuel as renewables began to emerge as a significant part of the UK energy mix.

"As the UK shifts more and more towards renewables, we have an important role to play," explains Roland



Shift Team Leader, Leigh Duffy, stands in front of one of the five generator units at Pembroke Power Station. Each unit can burn up to 1.5 million cubic meters of gas in one day. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

Long, Operations Manager at RWE Pembroke. "Our power station is very responsive - we can come online in around 45 minutes and quickly change our power output when asked. This makes us a good partner to intermittent zero carbon sources of energy such as solar and wind."

It's not a metric you'll find anywhere, but with just 100 employees, Pembroke Power Station delivers an astonishing 'end-product' output per member of staff, especially when you consider that as a 24 hour, all year-round operation, as few as 8 people could be on site at any time, overseeing the export of enough electricity to power up to 3.5 million homes. This just underlines the efficiency of the operation here.

Combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power stations are highly efficient. Pembroke Power Station has five huge 440MW generators whose long shafts are spun by gas turbines at one end and steam turbines at the other. The steam is formed by superheating water with the exhaust heat from the gas turbine. This double whammy

“
We can come online in around 45 minutes - this makes us a good partner to zero carbon energy such as solar and wind
”

Roland Long, Operations Manager,
RWE Pembroke



Powered by gas from across the estuary and water flowing from the Preselis, RWE Pembroke Power Station could hold some of the answers for how we work towards Net Zero. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

gets around 60% generating efficiency from gas (energy in vs. energy out). Your average diesel generator would only achieve around half that.

A walk around the site with Shift Team Leader, Leigh Duffy, further underscores the sense of calm efficiency, despite the scale of the operation. He points out the giant conductors emerging from each generator unit which connect into cables that disappear into the ground as they head to the National Grid substation. "Working with 400,000V is safer than working with 230V," he says, when asked about being so close to such enormous conductors. He explains: "Here, we have so many strict safety systems in place and a highly skilled workforce, whereas people tend to be less aware when they're in a domestic setting!"

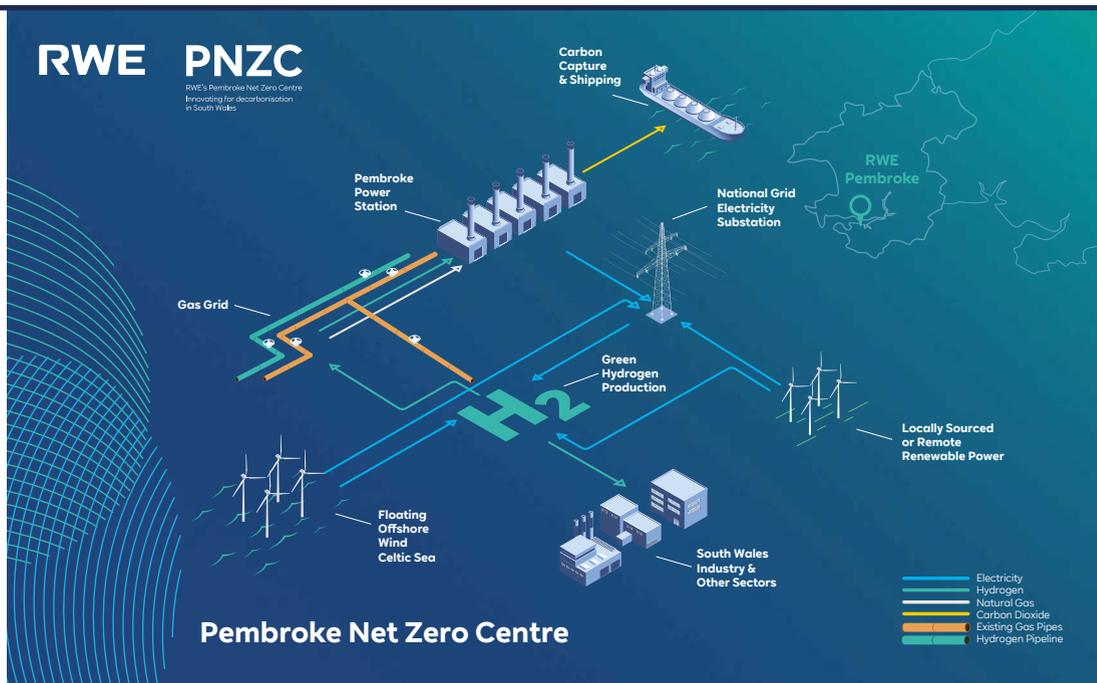
Only when you enter the vast turbine halls do you get a sense of the awesome physics at work. With shafts spinning at 3000rpm, each unit can burn through more than 1.5 million cubic meters of gas a day. Yet still there is only the muted roar and hum of machinery.

"The water [piped in fresh water from the eastern Cleddau river at Canaston] we use to make steam has to be purified first," Leigh explains. "If we didn't do that there would be literally tonnes of calcium created; it would be like having a massive kettle full of limescale! And the steam you see coming out of the stacks? That shows how efficient the system is because it shows most of the [650°C] exhaust heat energy has been recovered before it leaves the stack," he adds.

No visitor could fail to be impressed by the operation at Pembroke Power Station. It showcases precision engineering on an epic scale, yet the calmness of the operation seems somehow at odds with the vast energy it produces.



RWE PNZC
RWE's Pembroke Net Zero Centre
Innovating for decarbonisation
in South Wales



Pembroke Net Zero Centre

German power giant, RWE plans to be carbon neutral by 2040 and Pembroke could have a key role to play. Credit: RWE

RWE and a clean, green future.

The presence of a modern gas-powered generating business in Pembrokeshire is great for our economy. But it may soon be doing a lot more here, as we make the transition towards lower carbon electricity. RWE is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2040 and has targeted Pembroke for a potentially leading role in that strategy.

There are three parts to the plan. Firstly, the Pembroke Net Zero Centre will look at how they can capture carbon emitted by the power station and ship it away to storage sites, such as disused oil wells.

Secondly, they'll explore the feasibility of producing green hydrogen onsite using an electrolyser. The initial plan is to build a 100MW plant. Hydrogen produced could be piped to other big energy users on the Waterway, to help them reduce their carbon footprint.

Finally, RWE is looking to invest in floating offshore wind power in the Celtic Sea. It is already the largest renewable generator in Wales, producing more than 2GW from wind turbines, most of them offshore, with another 2GW under construction. It is currently driving a project to bring electricity from a Gigawatt scale floating wind array in the Celtic Sea ashore in Pembrokeshire. Developments like this represent the next incarnation of large scale energy being delivered to Milford Haven with all the opportunity this represents for both business and the local community.

"We are very keen to decarbonise," explains Roland. "But to do this we need support, as no one can do this alone. For example, with more power generation in the Celtic Sea, the national grid infrastructure will have to be improved," he continues. "A lot also depends on the regulatory framework giving investors the confidence they need."

To help it deliver on its aims, RWE has also teamed up with other big businesses and organisations throughout South Wales, including Valero, Dragon LNG, Pembrokeshire County Council and the Port of Milford Haven. The ambition of this South Wales Industrial Cluster (SWIC) is to develop the mechanisms and skills for them to reduce their own footprint, achieve Net Zero and in doing so, ensure our industries remain competitive and continue to support our regional economy.

As a German business, RWE is more aware than most of the need for European consumers to reduce their dependence on gas. Pembrokeshire already presents a neat case study for many of the factors that governments need to consider as we march towards Net Zero. RWE will play a central role, and their plans for the Pembroke Net Zero Centre will be watched closely both in the UK and around Europe and could provide our region with a significant advantage in the race to become a leader in the hydrogen economy.

"If we can demonstrate how a transition to Net Zero might work, it would be great for our young people here in Pembrokeshire, too," says Roland. "As this new pathway is set, I would expect to see our schools and Pembrokeshire College respond to help school leavers make the most of the opportunities to come."

PORT CHARITABLE UPDATE

Tiddles needs a new home. Tiddles was taken to the vet as a stray. She was found to be microchipped but when the owner was contacted, they said they had now got another cat and couldn't have him back. Credit: Owen Howells Photography



Who Cares?

Post lockdown, we are hopefully getting our lives back to some sort of normal. But many pets are finding that they have no future in thousands of homes that took on 'Covid Companions', but are now changing their minds. It means pet welfare organisations, including our chosen charity, Greenacres Rescue, are busier than ever.

Greenacres Animal Rescue Centre is a brilliant, 'what would we do without it?' kind of place. **Mikey Lawlor and his team**



Greenacres Rescue manager, Mikey Lawlor with Tiddles. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

of volunteers don't just rescue unwanted and abandoned pets. They restore their health, their trust, their connection with humans and, in the process and without meaning to, they redeem us all, just a little.

Because there is something slightly uncomfortable about visiting the centre, despite the joy of seeing good people looking after animals whose lives depend on there being good people in the world. It's only when you leave, when you have time to reflect, that you realise something is not altogether right about how we've shaped our relationships with animals as pets.

"We don't judge anybody," Mikey said, his open expression giving nothing away. "People call us, tell us they can't handle a new puppy and we do our best to help. Being as helpful as possible while trying to educate is the best approach to prevent the situation happening again."

And as if on cue, up drives a car with two young men in it. They're half an hour later than the agreed time (visits only by appointment here) but seem unfussed as one opens the boot and lets a dog hop out, its tail wagging, apparently excited by the next new experience in its short life. This dog is probably one of the luckier ones, its owners making an early call that, well, a dog isn't for life after all. They took the responsible decision to give the dog up to a registered rescue centre.

A survey by the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association estimated that more than 3 million households took on a pet in the early months of the pandemic. The Dogs Trust noted, and Mikey can confirm, that following a boom in ownership of these so-called Covid Companions, there was a subsequent rush to give up unwanted pets as lockdown eased.

"Relinquish requests have almost doubled over figures pre covid," said Mikey. "It's a huge increase made worse because the problems the animals are coming with have got worse, especially in dogs. Behaviour problems from not being socialised are causing us big issues."

What the pandemic highlighted is that our relationship with pets is often driven by the

experience we want from them, instead of with them. A survey carried out by the University of York sheds light on what might drive this asymmetric relationship. More than 90 per cent of respondents said their pet helped them cope emotionally with the lockdown and 96 per cent said their pet helped keep them fit and active.

But for the existence of organisations such as Greenacres Rescue, the impact of these skewed and sometimes short-lived love affairs with pets would be even more devastating. There are some who will resort to less compassionate ways of relinquishing their duties as an owner.

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**Vet bills
are around
£10,000
a month**
”

**Mikey Lawlor,
Greenacres Rescue**

"This lurcher, Brandy, was found wandering the streets and brought into our care," recounted Mikey. "She was unclaimed for seven days, so we now can begin looking for her forever home. Brandy had obviously been someone's pet but sadly, like many, no one came looking for her."

Not all pets are abandoned or surrendered. Some come to Greenacres because their owners' circumstances have changed unexpectedly. But once they've arrived, every pet receives the care and affection they need. And there is also a more positive movement that Mikey has seen emerge in recent years. An increasing number of people will come to Mikey to take on a rescue animal, rather than buy a pet.

"They speak to us and say they're interested in owning a dog and will wait 3 or 4 months until a suitable pet comes in," explained Mikey. "And I think that's great because they could have literally gone out and bought a puppy on the very first day... But they chose to wait."



Greenacres volunteer Lemmy Best works with all the large animals, including horses, at the rescue centre. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

The team at Greenacres had to rescue a lot of animals twice this year. Storm Eunice hit their headquarters hard in February, destroying the aviary and damaging some buildings beyond the point of repair. That was an unforeseen cost, but even the known overheads of running the rescue centre are considerable.

"Vet bills are around £10,000 a month," said Mikey. "Just one animal could account for £2,500 of that, easily. And that is part of the problem in the first place. Owners feel they can't afford those kinds of bills when their pet falls ill."

"We own the land here now, which helps massively, so the charity will hopefully run forever, long after my days. Whoever takes over after me is probably not even born yet!"



Councillor David Simpson with DofE participants at Haverfordwest Racecourse.

PORT SPONSORS DUKE OF EDINBURGH PROGRAMME

The Port has confirmed its continued support for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Pembrokeshire. As a Silver Associate Supporter, the Port is enabling pupils from Ysgol Harri Tudur, Milford Haven School and Portfield School to take part in volunteering activities and complete expeditions.

The DofE programme aims to empower young people and support them as they learn new skills, overcome obstacles, and build confidence and resilience.

Pupils from Portfield School recently took part in conservation work at Haverfordwest Racecourse and were visited by Leader of Pembrokeshire County Council, Councillor David Simpson, who commended them on their efforts. The Leader has thanked the team at the Port for their continued support for the scheme which he says is much appreciated by the community.



NEW GREEN ENERGY FUND LAUNCHED

A new Green Energy Fund has been launched by the Port of Milford Haven to support local organisations to improve their environmental sustainability. The fund will support projects that are looking to reduce carbon emissions, reduce waste and/or improve energy efficiency, for example solar panels, loft insulation or improved heating systems.

A committee of green enthusiasts from the Port will meet on a quarterly basis to assess all applications, which should be submitted through the Port's website at www.mhpa.co.uk/green-energy-fund

Community Engagement Assistant, Lauren Williams, said "As one of the Port's core values, sustainability is fundamental to our vision to build the Haven's prosperity. Protecting the environment is at the forefront of our minds in everything that we do and we want to help other organisations to improve their green credentials and make changes that will make them more energy efficient in the long-term."

UNDER THE BRIDGE

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 11+
EVERY TUESDAY & FRIDAY NIGHT
DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS **6PM - 8.30PM**
 UNDER HAKIN BRIDGE, MILFORD MARINA

Port of Milford Haven
 CRONFA GYMUNEDOL COMMUNITY FUND

Brought to you by Milford Youth Matters, MYM Ambassadors and Port of Milford Haven. Part funded by The National Lottery Community Fund for Wales.

UNDER THE BRIDGE IS BACK FOR 2022

The Port and Milford Youth Matters have renewed their partnership to enable the charity to offer Friday night youth provision once again during 2022.

Over the past four years the teams have worked together to deliver popular events such as Under the Bridge and WAVE which have been successful in reducing anti-social behaviour in the town, supporting young people to have a voice in their community and enabling access to a range of enriching free activities.

Under the Bridge is back again this year with a total of 18 events thanks to funding from the National Lottery and the Port of Milford Haven.

For more information and to register visit www.mhpa.co.uk/under-the-bridge

SAFETY BRIEFING

BE A RESPONSIBLE RIDER

Jet-skiing is an increasingly popular activity and the Milford Haven Waterway is an excellent place to enjoy them in a relatively safety environment.

Before you launch, it's a good idea to familiarise yourself with the **Port's Leisure User Guide** (www.mhpa.co.uk/download) and check out the **Personal Watercraft Partnership's website** (www.pwp.org.uk) where you can find plenty of information on training sessions and useful check lists.

While out on the water locally you should keep a good eye out for other users of the Haven, and when approaching or leaving the shore do so at 'dead slow minimum wake' to ensure the safety of any swimmers or small craft in the area. Likewise, avoid entering mooring areas as there could be someone trying to access or repair their boat.

The Waterway is home to a wonderful array of wildlife so it's important to minimise any disturbance to marine animals such as seals or porpoises. If you do come across any, please keep your distance, never drive

head-on to move, scatter or separate animals, maintain a steady direction and never swim too close for their safety and yours.

The safest way to go to sea is with another craft so there is always someone to assist you in an emergency. Other pieces of equipment that will help you if you get into difficulty are VHF radios, flares, a mobile phone, kill cord, waterproof torch and a bag anchor.

Water Ranger at the Port, Brian Macfarlane, said "We encourage people to get out and enjoy the Waterway but we're also very keen to promote responsible riding. I would definitely recommend a personal flotation device (PFD) or buoyancy aid that is specifically designed for jet-ski use as they offer impact protection as well as buoyancy. Jet-skis have really grown in popularity in recent years but there are still very real risks associated with high speed watercraft, so please take the time to make sure you're ready to take to the water."

For more helpful tips and advice, visit www.mhpa.co.uk/jet-skis

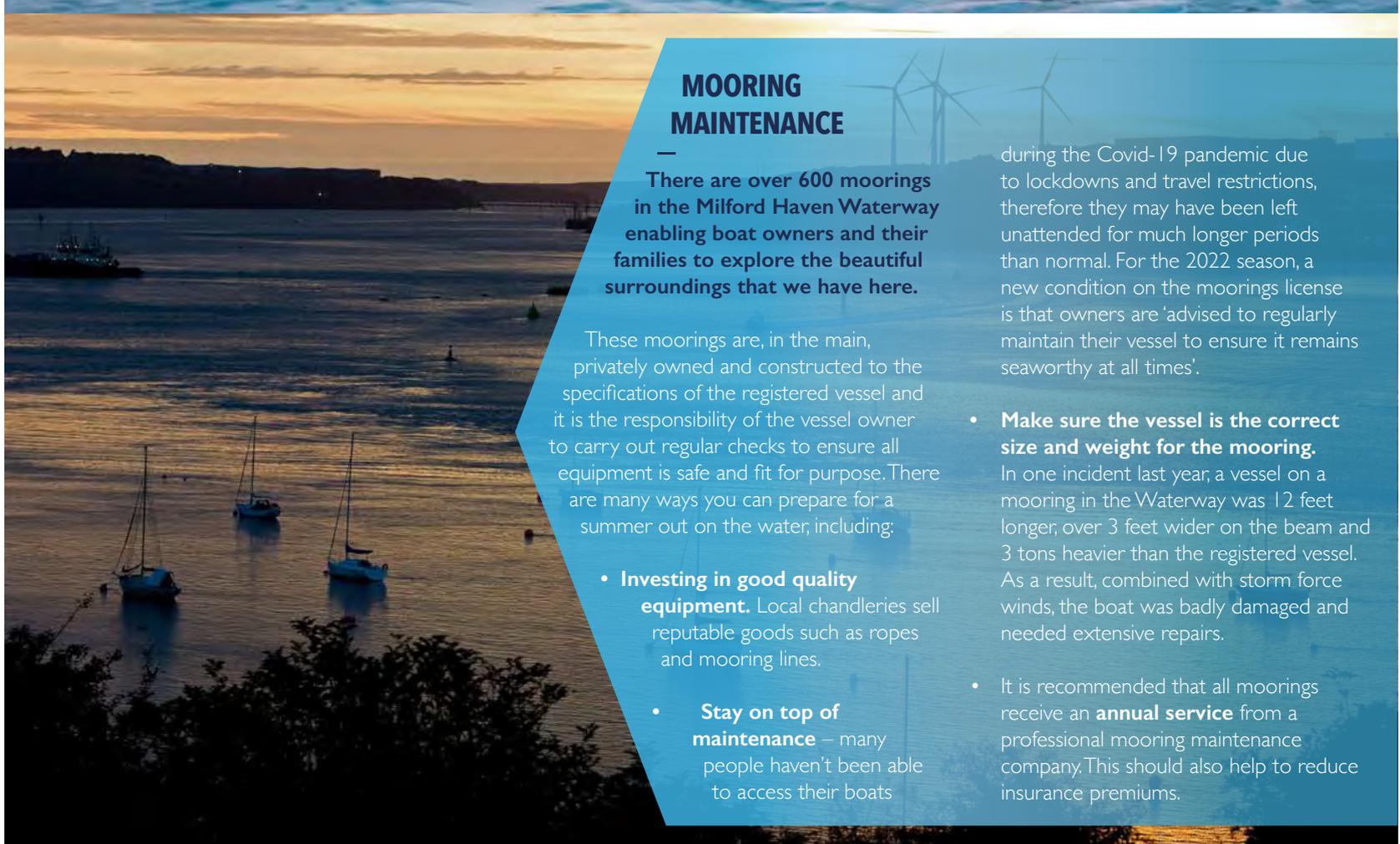


MOORING MAINTENANCE

There are over 600 moorings in the Milford Haven Waterway enabling boat owners and their families to explore the beautiful surroundings that we have here.

These moorings are, in the main, privately owned and constructed to the specifications of the registered vessel and it is the responsibility of the vessel owner to carry out regular checks to ensure all equipment is safe and fit for purpose. There are many ways you can prepare for a summer out on the water, including:

- **Investing in good quality equipment.** Local chandleries sell reputable goods such as ropes and mooring lines.
- **Stay on top of maintenance** – many people haven't been able to access their boats during the Covid-19 pandemic due to lockdowns and travel restrictions, therefore they may have been left unattended for much longer periods than normal. For the 2022 season, a new condition on the moorings license is that owners are 'advised to regularly maintain their vessel to ensure it remains seaworthy at all times'.
- **Make sure the vessel is the correct size and weight for the mooring.** In one incident last year, a vessel on a mooring in the Waterway was 12 feet longer, over 3 feet wider on the beam and 3 tons heavier than the registered vessel. As a result, combined with storm force winds, the boat was badly damaged and needed extensive repairs.
- It is recommended that all moorings receive an **annual service** from a professional mooring maintenance company. This should also help to reduce insurance premiums.



Sustainable Development

Existing large energy organisations, including oil and gas businesses, have a huge role to play in any successful and sustainable move to Net Zero whilst protecting GB energy resilience, security and generating economic growth. To ensure we meet today's needs whilst also building a greener future, we will need to support our home-grown, traditional energy sectors. Global decarbonisation whilst maintaining a good quality of life for both current and future generations is a challenge that can only be met by working collaboratively with both existing and new industries.

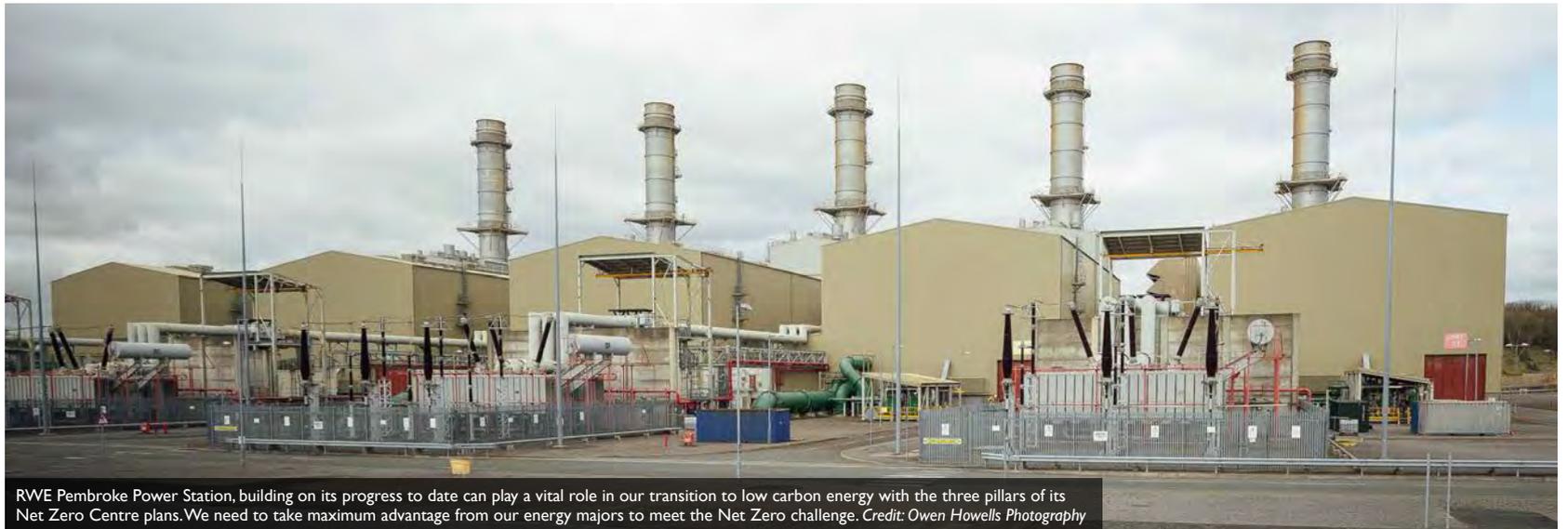
to our balanced energy markets. This doesn't tell us oil and gas are bad, it tells us that energy shocks of any kind have grave consequences. Soaring energy and food prices are punishing low-income households. This price shock was due to a hostile act, but it's hard to see how, even with the best of intentions, a rapid lurch away from hydrocarbons without having a comprehensive and sustainable strategy in place for what is replacing it, will be any more than an act of friendly fire with the same results.

We believe that decarbonised electricity and hydrogen will be the cleanest way to power and heat our homes and also provide the power for our cars in future. For families facing fuel poverty right now, the thought of relying on electricity to keep the lights on, keep warm or get around is a chilling prospect with energy costs as they are. So, there are two problems to unpick: Firstly, renewables are not yet at a scale sufficient to pick up the load and bring down energy prices and

and produce an unworkable strategy that creates further shocks down the line while just moving carbon offshore and penalising GB families with unnecessary high energy costs.

Norway is the diligent student. It did its homework and has invested heavily in renewables over the last 30 years, much of it paid for by oil and gas dividends. Now, 70% of the energy consumed in Norway comes from renewables. Only 25% of the UK's energy is from low carbon sources. Norway has nearly half a million registered EVs on its roads. The UK, with more than ten times the population, has around 400,000. 60% of Norway's homes have heat pumps installed. In the UK the figure is less than 1%.

We are well behind Norway and, unlike them, we no longer produce significant quantities of oil and gas. But we can still follow their example of formulating a well-planned transition relying heavily on hydrocarbon-based infrastructure, knowledge and investment as we go. In this issue,



RWE Pembroke Power Station, building on its progress to date can play a vital role in our transition to low carbon energy with the three pillars of its Net Zero Centre plans. We need to take maximum advantage from our energy majors to meet the Net Zero challenge. Credit: Owen Howells Photography

Wales needs to be a cleaner, greener nation. We have set ourselves a bold challenge to decarbonise but we must not put short/medium energy security at risk and we must not penalise the most vulnerable with unnecessary cost increases.

The old protest chant comes to mind: "What do we want? Zero Carbon! When do we want it? Now!" But what we want and what we can deliver now are not the same thing, and we need to come to terms with that, and factor a sustainable transition into our plans. To put it bluntly, carbon won't go away anytime soon. What's more, we need to take advantage of the large major energy investors (which includes the existing oil and gas majors) if we're going to achieve Net Zero. The answer is not to "offshore" carbon emissions whilst penalising our most vulnerable citizens and GB based industry with high energy prices.

We don't need to look any further than the economic storm following Russia's invasion of Ukraine to see the turmoil caused by disruption

secondly, millions of households can't afford to pay for the installation of heat pumps to replace gas and oil boilers, let alone buy electric vehicles. We need time and we need a workable, fundable strategy.

“
Wales needs to be a cleaner, greener nation.
”

Much of the frustration activists feel is understandable. The writing has been on the wall for decades and like a student on the night before a deadline, we are scribbling furiously in the final hours. The danger is that in our haste, we could cut corners, damage fragile economies

RWE Pembroke set out how their gas-fired power station and future investments in green hydrogen can help us achieve our goals. At least two oil giants are now involved in projects to build floating offshore wind arrays in the Celtic Sea. One of them, Total, is a partner of Blue Gem Wind, based in Pembroke Dock. The frontier of marine renewable energy is a costly place to be. Oil industry profits and know-how are helping to drive this technology's roll out, to a point it reaches a scale which brings down the price of green electricity.

There is another reason we should help Wales' oil and gas industry to help us make the transition to Net Zero. It supports many livelihoods here in Pembrokeshire. If we can engage the industry to help us take a lead in a national transition, we sustain livelihoods and careers in the energy sector on the Waterway as they gradually repurpose to low carbon technologies. The transition is Pembrokeshire's greatest hope of having a stake in the renewable energy revolution.



1 THE SCOOP ICE CREAM PARLOUR

Home to delicious ice cream, made at Milford Waterfront, served with watery views.



2 FOAM

Known for serving 'Instagrammable' breakfasts as well as a tasty lunch and dinner menu with uninterrupted panoramic views of the historic Milford Haven Waterway.



3 SUGAR LOAF

A local deli and bakery serving a range of mouth-watering food including delicious sandwiches, tasty pastries and doughnuts all made right here at Milford Waterfront.



4 THE HARBOURMASTER

Bar and restaurant with a large outdoor terrace overlooking Milford Marina, serving a variety of dishes and an extensive drinks menu.



5 TALOUIES

Specialising in homemade light bites, cakes and desserts with a great view overlooking Milford Marina.



6 MADISON'S BAR & RESTAURANT

A 1920s and 30s themed restaurant combining delicious food and exquisite cocktails with a unique dining experience for all.



8 THE LOUNGE

Serving modern and homemade tasty items on the food menu, washed down with refreshing drinks in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.



10 SPINNAKER CAFÉ

Serving delicious and affordable homemade meals with an ever-changing display of freshly baked cakes.



12 CROW'S NEST CAFÉ

A family-friendly café offering a selection of tasty foods, including afternoon tea packages made fresh to order 7 days a week.



14 DULSE

An exciting new dining experience at the brand new Tŷ Hotel, serving up some of the freshest produce from the Pembrokeshire coast and countryside.



15 COSTA COFFEE

One of the nation's favourite coffee shops renowned for serving a full range of hot and cold drinks, along with a selection of light bites too.



16 COCO'S RESTAURANT

A vibrant restaurant serving mouth-watering meals and delicious cocktails in an informal, relaxed city-style venue.



17 PHOENIX BOWL & PIRATE PETE'S ADVENTURE PLAY

A lively 10-pin bowling centre with a soft play area and fantastic, family-friendly food.

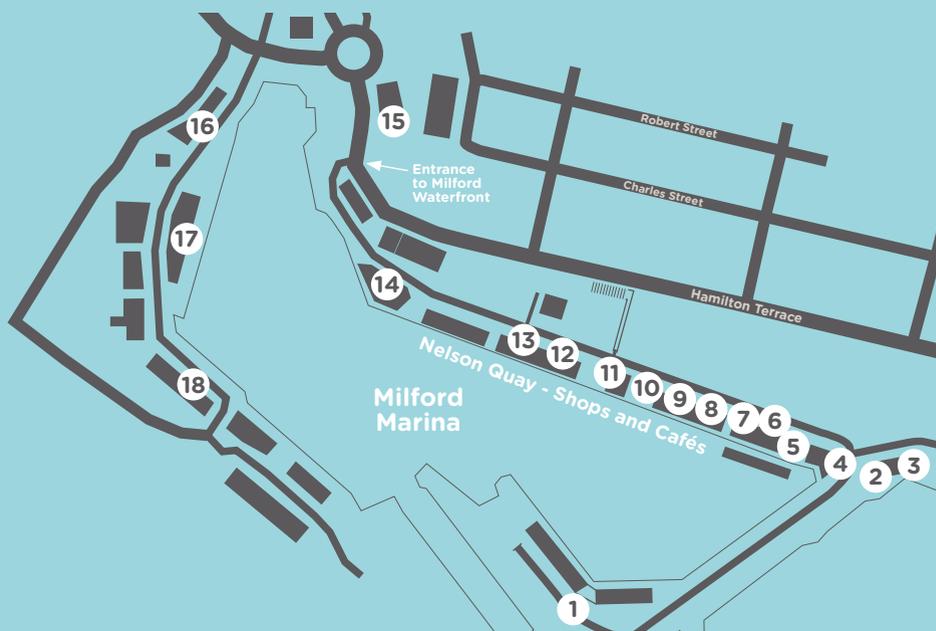


18 THE GALLEY CAFÉ

Popular with the locals, this café serves homemade classic dishes including all day breakfasts and toasties all for reasonable prices.

There's lots on the menu at Milford Waterfront

Visit Milford Waterfront this summer and you'll be spoilt for choice with a fantastic range of places to eat, and views overlooking the boats at Milford Marina. From freshly made pizza and locally landed fish, to delicious doughnuts and irresistible ice creams, Milford Waterfront has it all!



7 THE GREEN GENIE

Offering an array of homemade vegetarian and vegan dishes cooked in a relaxed and stylish setting.



9 IMPASTO PIZZA BAR

An essential spot for those seeking the very best of authentic Italian cooking, combining Italian and Pembrokeshire produce to tantalise your taste buds.



11 MARTHA'S VINEYARD

An original family-run bar and restaurant with a large outdoor terrace overlooking Milford Marina, renowned for serving fresh, tasty food with a strong influence from local suppliers.



13 THE CHEESY COW

A friendly café serving baked rustic goods, breakfast items, sweet treats and delicious graze boxes for any occasion.

