



Project Kraken Newsletter

Crime & Counter Terrorist Strategy

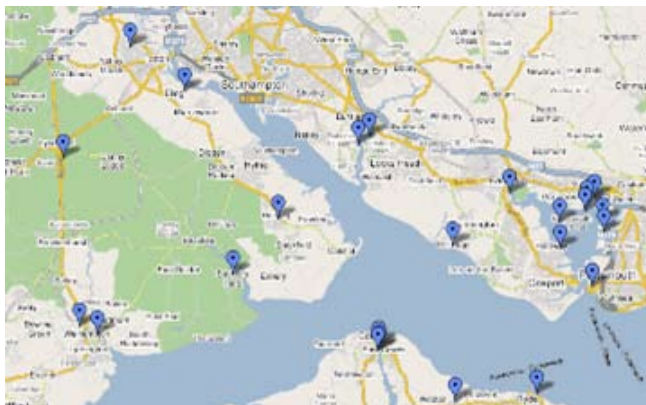
“Protecting the waters of the Solent”

Winter 08/09

MARINE CRIME OCT 2008 TO NOV 2008

October again saw a number of thefts from boats around Portsmouth Harbour with small outboards and fishing gear targeted. Bembridge Harbour suffered a large number of thefts of fuel tanks this is believed to be people stealing the fuel for use in their cars. Cowes suffered a couple of thefts of dinghies.

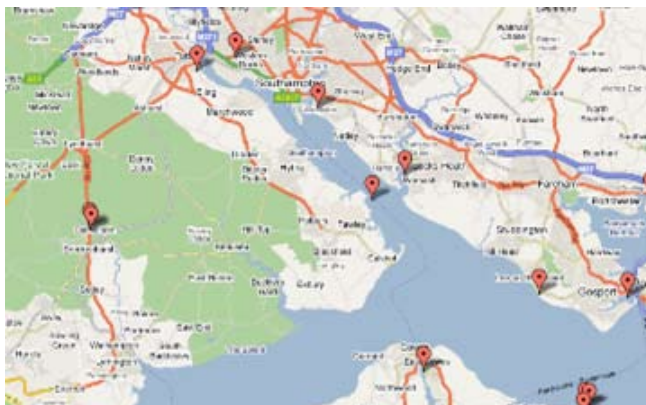
October 2008 Crime



November again saw Portsmouth Harbour suffering the majority of the Solent's marine crime with fishing gear again targeted. Fuel was again stolen from Bembridge Harbour, fuel cans stolen and dumped on the beach empty after filling their cars. Yarmouth suffered a similar fate. There were a number of thefts from boats on moorings across the area with the thieves again targeting a range of items.

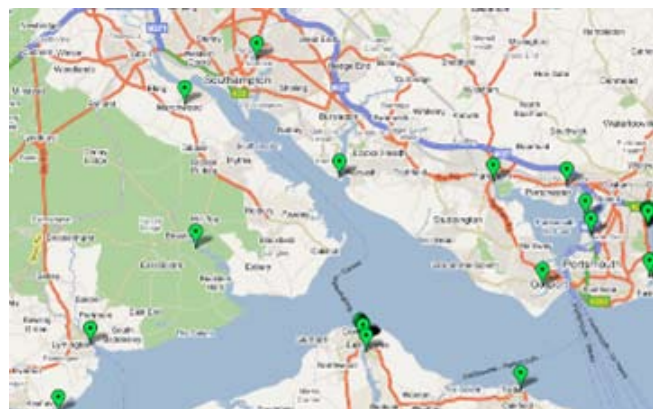
Between August and October a number of High value RIB's on trailers were stolen across Dorset, Hampshire and West Sussex with a combined value of in excess of £350,000. The Marine Unit have arrested 3 persons and a number of these boats recovered. Enquiries continue.

November 2008 Crime



December saw the majority of our marine crimes in Langstone Harbour with small boats being taken and used to steal from other boats kept on moorings, there were also a number of thefts from boats in winter layup (Crime prevention tip: remove all valuables including small outboards from your boat when laid up for the winter). Cowes also suffered a number of Thefts from and Criminal Damage to boats. Three local youths were arrested and are being dealt with for these crimes.

December 2008 Crime



INVESTIGATORS TRACE BOAT'S LAST VOYAGE

By Krishna Fokharel <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122816457079069941.html?mod=article-outset-box>.

Early on the morning of November 14, the 45-foot fishing boat "Kuber" left its home port on India's west coast and headed for the abundant waters near the Sir Creek, a river that runs into the sea at the fuzzy aquatic border between India and Pakistan.

It is a journey that ships from the port city of Porbandar have made for centuries, and that the Kuber has made regularly since it was commissioned in 1997. But for lead crewman Amar Narayan Singh, a 45-year-old father of three, and his four crew members, it was a voyage from which they never returned. About one week in, the boat was hijacked by terrorists who used it as a link in their passage to Mumbai.

Last Wednesday, 20 nautical miles from India's biggest city, those terrorists embarked in dinghies from the Kuber to wreak three days of havoc that ended Saturday with at least 172 dead. There remain many questions about how the terrorists made their way to Mumbai. Investigators are pursuing leads that they left in another boat from the Pakistan port of Karachi, along the coast west of the mouth of Sir Creek, and then hijacked the Kuber to avoid detection in Indian territorial waters. *Continued on next page...*



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Karachi, with a population of more than 14 million, has a vast coastline, two major ports and a fishing harbor, from which hundreds of cargo ships and fishing trawlers operate. Police officials said they don't have information that the terrorists in the Mumbai attacks took off from the city. No one from Pakistan's defense ministry was available for comment.



The Kuber headed for the mouth of the Sir Creek for 10 to 12 days of fishing for pomfret, Indian salmon and eel. The area is popular with Pakistani and Indian fishermen, and is heavily patrolled by maritime authorities from both sides to enforce the territorial boundaries of the two rivals. Ships that slip too far over the line are regularly apprehended and their crews detained.

For the first eight days of the voyage, Mr. Narayan, the lead crew member, checked in regularly with Mr. Masani, the owner. Then, starting around Nov. 21, he failed to report in. Mr. Masani says he didn't report that to authorities because sometimes a day or two would pass without contact.

KRAKEN: - *If these stories are true then there will have been hostile reconnaissance carried out in advance to identify:- What security patrols are there? Where to land? What are the tides? How close are the targets? How best for a mother ship to approach the coast? Where best to launch from? These are all activities which Kraken members can identify and report on, but this activity could equally be crime related. Hostile reconnaissance can give away terrorist and criminal behaviour in advance of any action by the group.*

500M SHIPMENT SEIZED IN MAJOR 'STING' OPERATION

A RECORD haul of cocaine worth more than 500m was dramatically seized off the south-west coast yesterday in a sweeping international 'sting' operation. Operation Seabight had been co-ordinated by four international police forces, including the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) in the UK, and involved the yacht 'Dances with Waves' being tracked by satellites all the way across the Atlantic from the Caribbean.



The smuggling operation involved a major Anglo-Spanish gang with strong links to a Colombian drugs cartel. Three men -- two Britons and a man travelling with Irish identity papers -- were detained after a 60-foot yacht was stopped and boarded around 170 miles off the west Cork coast at approximately 10pm on Wednesday night. The yacht was immediately ordered into Castletownbere in West Cork with a Naval Service escort. The three detained men are all aged between 44 and 52.

It is suspected that between one-and-a-half and two tonnes of cocaine is contained within the vessel's hull storage compartment in a series of plastic-wrapped packages. Samples of the suspected drugs were rushed ashore and were taken to the State Laboratory for analysis as to its purity and point of origin.

Ireland's previous record cocaine haul came at Dunlough Bay in West Cork just 17 months ago and involved 440m of Colombian cocaine which was traced to the Medellin area.

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The vessel will immediately be cordoned off at an isolated pier outside Castletownbere pending a detailed forensic and technical examination.

Gardai said the operation, also involved a number of foreign law enforcement agencies and used intelligence gathered by the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre (MAOC) in Lisbon, of which Ireland is a member. *Source - Independent*

KRAKEN: - *This attempted smuggling operation was complex and required professional sailors. Less ambitious plans include using pleasure boats and fishing vessels to go out over the horizon into the English Channel to rendezvous either with a commercial cargo ship or a buoy at predetermined co-ordinates in order to transfer the contraband and bring it into the UK.*

YACHT FOUND YEARS AFTER IT SANK



A North East yachtsman has found his vessel two years after it capsized during a race, leaving him stranded in the mid-Atlantic. Ross Hobson of Kirkley, Northumberland, was taking part in the Route du Rhum race

from France to the Caribbean and was 1,760 miles from the finish when the trimaran capsized. He spent eight hours clinging to the hull of his upturned vessel, in high winds and waves reaching 4m (13ft) until he was rescued.

The boat was discovered this month, 2,000 miles from where it sank, washed up on a beach in the Bahamas. The yachtsman said he was delighted his “indestructible” boat had reappeared, “The hull, although superficially in good condition, is unfortunately irreparable.

“I have asked for a few things to be removed from her before she is broken up and buried and the shifting sands of the Bahamas are likely to claim her very soon.”

It was discovered by a woman living on the island of Eleuthera.

KRAKEN REPORTS – FEEDBACK

1. Reporting on some suspicious activity resulted in some excellent drug related information being passed to another force.
2. RHIBs continue to cause the highest number of reports in relation to running without lights, suspicious behaviour, especially in the charter market.
3. Reports of suspicious people around a sensitive sight resulted in the recovery of a stolen RHIB and the improvement in the sites security.
4. Several reports about vehicle acting suspiciously around an isolated slipway have resulted in a detailed investigation, and useful intelligence being found.
5. A fishing vessel was identified as behaving in a suspicious manner and erratic seamanship. After investigation it turned out that the vessel was “passing by” and the crew were in a “boisterous mood”; no offences were disclosed; they were advised about their conduct.

Report to the Police on **0845 045 45 45** the position, time, description of the vessel, and as detailed a description of the persons involved, details of their activity. Your report will be investigated, and if further information is needed you will be contacted.