

Help Sink Marine Crime

- ◆ **Lock away or remove valuable items or equipment**
- ◆ **Mark equipment and record serial numbers**
- ◆ **Secure equipment if you are unable to remove**
- ◆ **Register your vessel & tenders**
- ◆ **Use Crime Reduction Initiatives**
- ◆ **Report anything suspicious**
- ◆ **Police: 101**
- ◆ **Border Agency: 0800 595000**
- ◆ **Emergency: 999**

**Const Steve Farnes
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*Know more about
Boatwatch
A Marine Crime
Reduction
Scheme*



**Lets help sink
marine crime**

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Devonport Marine Unit

The Ministry of Defence Police marine unit at Devonport was formed in 1828. The men who specialised in this task lived on board an old 1777 ton hulk called HMS Leda, formerly a fifth rate forty-six gun ship placed off Morice Yard. The men were required to row one complete patrol of the harbour during a shift. As time went on they managed to obtain the use of steam pinnaces or large coal burning vessels the size of tugs.

Their powers covered the whole of the Port of Plymouth and as far as the tide flowed. Today they still Police the Port of Plymouth as civilian Police officers employed by the Ministry of Defence and their area consists of 112 sq miles. They act under the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987.

Their role is to Police the port and enforce the Dockyard Port of Plymouth Order on behalf of the Queen's Harbour Master. This includes the security and safe guard of all MOD property.



Boatwatch

The Boatwatch team attends Yacht and Sailing Clubs giving talks on crime reduction and encouraging Clubs or organisations to join the Boatwatch scheme.

The Boatwatch idea is for club members to carry out observations on their boat during various times keeping a vigilant eye out for potential offenders of marine crime. They are asked to notify us when they start and again when they finish and never to challenge anyone and obviously never to carry out the task alone.

We recommend they carry some form of communication and are informed of contact numbers or radio channels to contact the marine unit for assistance and possible arrest of offenders.

Boatwatch has proven to be extremely effective against marine crime.



Boat Registration

Devonport Marine Unit operate a Boat Registration scheme which offers boat owners the opportunity to register their boat and tenders free of charge. This initiative has been successful with boats being registered on a daily basis. This scheme is also supported by the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary.

The idea of boat registration is to give Police access to information when checking a vessel at sea or when checking a boat and trailer shore side.

Prior to the scheme, there was no way of quickly establishing the legal ownership of a boat. It also assists in the return of vessels and equipment recovered by Police, either having been lost or stolen.

A registration form is available from any Police Station throughout Devon & Cornwall or from the address below.



For further information contact:

Constable Steve Farnes or
Constable Chris Gibbs

Boatwatch

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