



NEWS RELEASE

Monday 4 May 2009

Second annual Jersey Boat Show attracts thousands

The 2009 Jersey Boat Show has been a huge success, with all the main attractions full to capacity and stall holders reporting significant trade.

Over the three days, thousands of people have looked around the Royal Navy's HMS York; the Jubilee Sailing Trust's tall ship Lord Nelson; and more than 80 boats of all sizes on the pontoon. In addition to the main attractions, visitors enjoyed more than 80 exhibitors, and entertainment throughout the festival weekend from a wide variety of musicians and entertainers.

Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Senator Paul Routier, said: "This has been a fantastic showcase for the marine industry, as well as a brilliant event for Islanders and island visitors. I believe that the Jersey Boat Show is now truly established as an event in the Jersey calendar which brings significant benefits for tourism, trade and the Island as a whole. The show has also been a platform for Jersey to develop its international reputation. From the Chief Minister down, Islanders have forged stronger links with the Royal Navy, and with the UK and France."

The Jersey Boat Show also helped tourism, with an increased number of visiting yachts from the UK and France arriving for the show.

Jersey Harbours' Chief Executive, Howard Le Cornu, said: "Last year's inaugural boat show was very successful, but I think that this year we have stepped up to a new level. We have made it a more diverse show - a bigger window on the marine world. Everyone came for a fun day out, but I think that many visitors also realised how much there is to do in marine leisure.

"The 80 traders who had stalls are saying that they have had a lot of business, which I think reflects the nature of the show: people have enjoyed looking around the multi-million pound yachts which they can dream of owning, but against that backdrop there were also the smaller vessels which many more people could afford, and business was good at every level.

"The live entertainment has significantly enhanced the whole show's ambience, which visitors have really enjoyed. For safety reasons we limited the number of people allowed on to HMS York, the pontoon and Lord Nelson, but thousands of people visited them every day, and they all enjoyed the experience. Even at this early stage, I am confident in saying that this has been a fantastic festival."

- Ends -

Notes to Editors:

For further information, please contact Sara Felton on telephone (01534) 447745 or 07797 787 872.

- Photos available on request.
- The Jersey Boat Show is organised by Jersey Harbours, a government department of The States of Jersey.
- The event is a vital showcase for the local maritime industry, an integral part of the Island's tourism offering and an opportunity for broadening overseas marine connections.
- The Show highlights the Port of Jersey as it continues to provide the Island's lifeline, the valuable input of the Jersey Coastguard in promoting safer and cleaner seas and the role of Jersey Harbours in overseeing both these and Jersey Marina services to ensure their development and long term viability