



## East Coast Rivers Cruising Companion

by Janet Harber

20<sup>th</sup> Edition

Update No. 5 – May 2022

### CAUTION

These updates should only be used for navigation in conjunction with up-to-date charts, chart plotters and Notices to Mariners, etc. We accept no liability for any errors or omissions, or for any accidents or mishaps which may arise from the use of this (or any) update or the original publication.

### Chapter 1 LOWESTOFT

#### pp 17 and 18 Bridge to Inner Harbour

Construction of the new Gull Wing Bridge, to replace the existing road bridge, began in summer 2021 with work on the south shore of Lake Lothing. Yachtsmen are requested to pass the works slowly and with great care.

Latest information from Lowestoft Port Control on VHF Ch 14.

### Chapter 3 ORFORD RIVER

#### pp 28, 29, 30 and 34 The Entrance and Port Guide

Based on a survey carried out by Trinity House in March 2022, the seasonal entrance buoys were laid in the following positions (**liable to change**):

**Orford Haven SWM** 52° 02'.00N 01°28'.20E

**Oxley (port-hand)** 52° 02'.02N 01° 27'.10E

**Weir (stbd-hand)** 52° 02'.24N 01° 27'.60E

For the latest position of these buoys check with the new Orford Town Trust Quaymaster Matt Smy, who can be contacted on 07528 092635 or call *Chantry* on VHF Ch 08. (Philip Attwood, quaymaster for over 14 years, has recently retired).

### Chapter 5 THE RIVER DEBEN

#### pp. 43, 44, 45 and 46 The Entrance

Please note that, as in 2021, the entrance is considerably changed from previous years. Exiting the river is now potentially more difficult than entering.

Felixstowe Ferry Harbourmaster John White's website [www.debenestuarypilot.co.uk](http://www.debenestuarypilot.co.uk) shows a useful aerial video shot at LW in late-April 2022. John White says

that he will not be producing a new chart this year as "the entrance is in constant flux".

Based on a survey carried out by Trinity House in March 22, the seasonal entrance buoys were laid in the following positions (**liable to change**):

#### Woodbridge Haven

**SWM** 51° 57'.10N 01° 23'.63E

**West Knoll (port-hand)** 51° 58'.42N 01° 22'.10E

**Knoll Spit (port-hand)** 51° 58'.50N 01° 23'.05E

**Mid Knoll (stbd-hand)** 51° 58'.54N 01° 23'.20E

**The position of these buoys is very liable to change at short notice.**

Contact John White on 07803 476621 or call *Odd Times* on VHF Ch 08 for the latest information.

### Chapter 12 THE RIVER CROUCH

#### pp.117, 118 and 119 Buoyage of River Crouch

In June 2021 some **significant buoyage changes** were made in the **Swallowtail and Whitaker channels**.

#### Swallowtail Channel

**Swallowtail No 1 Fl Y 5s** has been moved to a new position of:  
51° 41'.40N 01° 07'.50E

**Swallowtail No 2 Fl Y 10s** has been permanently withdrawn.

**Swallowtail No 3** has been renamed **Swallowtail No 2** new light characteristic of **Fl Y 10s**.

**Swallowtail No 4** has been renamed **Swallowtail No 3**.

### **Whitaker Channel**

**Whitaker No 1** has been moved to a new position of:  
51° 40'.53N 01° 05'.40E

**Whitaker No 2** has been moved to a new position of:  
51° 40'.25N 01° 05'.40E

**Whitaker No 3** has been permanently withdrawn.

**Whitaker No 4** has been permanently withdrawn.

**Whitaker No 5** has been renamed **Whitaker No 3**  
new light characteristic of **Fl (2) G 5s**

**Whitaker No 6** has been renamed **Whitaker No 4**  
new light characteristic of **Fl (2) R 5s**

**Whitaker No 7** has been renamed **Whitaker No 5**  
new light characteristic of **Fl (3) G 10s**

**Whitaker No 8** has been renamed **Whitaker No 6**  
New light characteristic of **Fl (3) R 10s**

A chart showing all the above buoyage changes can be downloaded from the CHA website

[www.crouchharbour.uk](http://www.crouchharbour.uk)

Go to Notices to Mariners for June 2021.

Also on the same website is a downloadable 2022 CHA Guide.

### **pp.118 and 119 The Raysand Channel**

In October 2021, the Crouch Harbour Authority Notice to Mariners No 43 stated that “Mariners are advised there have been reports of less water than charted between the Raysand North and Raysand Middle (Ron Pipe) buoys.”

It is advisable that this route should only be used on a rising tide.

### **pp. 120 and 121 Burnham on Crouch**

**Burnham Fairway No 2 (red) Lt buoy** has been permanently withdrawn

### **Chapter 13 The River Roach and Havengore**

#### **pp. 132, 133 and 134 Paglesham**

John Langrick, of the Roach Sailing Association, tells me that two ex-gravel barges are at the yard being converted to luxury houseboats, with a further three barges waiting at Burnham.

The pontoon at Paglesham had become unsafe and has been dismantled, hopefully, for renovation by the yard. The slipway can still be used for landing.

The RSA moorings are downstream of the slipway and there are usually one or two available for visiting

yachts. Contact John Langrick, details in the Port Guide.

### **Chapter Fourteen THE RIVER THAMES**

#### **pp.147 and 148 Benfleet**

Phil Bostock, of Benfleet YC, has updated his charts and sailing directions for Benfleet Creek and the Ray as of January 2022. His hard work, based on his own surveys, has resulted in even more detailed chartlets and informative notes on navigating from Southend Pier to Benfleet YC.

These can be downloaded from  
[www.benfleetyachtclub.org](http://www.benfleetyachtclub.org)

#### **p. 154 Gallions Reach**

Gallions Point Marina, once a useful stopover on the north bank, has been closed permanently. The site has been sold to developers.