



News Release

For Immediate Release

7 November 2024

MDL Marinas raises £10,000 for charity through summer initiatives

MDL Marinas is proud to announce that its marina teams raised an impressive £10,000 over the summer, reinforcing the company's commitment to supporting local communities and national charities. These funds will benefit a range of important causes, including Hamble Lifeboat, Macmillan Cancer Support, Prostate Cancer UK, and many more.

Through a variety of fundraising events across a number of its marinas, MDL has made a significant impact. Among the standout efforts was a bold initiative led by Lauren McCann, Marina Manager at Ocean Village Marina in Southampton, who shaved her head to raise funds for Breast Cancer UK, Prostate Cancer UK and Ocean Youth Trust South. Alongside other events, including a raffle and a duck race, the team at Ocean Village Marina raised a total of £4,886.

"A huge thank you to everyone that supported our charity events. From amazing live music and generous raffle prize donations to all the personal donations, we couldn't have done it without the best marina team and community," says McCann.

"We're thrilled to support these three incredible charities, and I'm proud that my hair donation is now on its way to The Little Princess Trust to be made into a wig for a child undergoing cancer treatment."

Charity initiatives across MDL Marinas

In addition to the efforts at Ocean Village, many of MDL's other marinas also held successful fundraising events this summer, with marina teams, tenants and customers working together to support the causes. Some key highlights include:

- Bray Marina raised £580 for Swan Lifeline through their 'Pedalo to Penton' event, where staff pedalled from Bray to Penton Hook, supported by Bray Marine sales, who provided a safety boat.



- Chatham Maritime Marina raised £470 for Evelina London Children’s Charity through raffles and competitions such as “Guess the Sweets”, held in memory of a colleague’s granddaughter.
- Port Hamble Marina raised £2,948 for Hamble Lifeboat through a 24-hour cycling challenge and BBQ.
- Mercury Yacht Harbour hosted a summer party that raised £650 for Hamble Lifeboat and Wet Wheels, with over 250 guests attending to enjoy games, raffles and generous donations from local businesses.
- Northney Marina raised £360 for Macmillan Cancer Support and the Alzheimer’s Society with a charity BBQ.

Ongoing support for Ocean Youth Trust

In addition to these fundraising efforts, MDL Marinas continues its long-standing support for Ocean Youth Trust South, providing a home for its sail training vessel *Prolific*. MDL is also proud to continue its commitment to the MDL Sail Training Awards, which offers young people the chance to experience life at sea.

Nominations for the 2025 sailing experience are now open. Winners will embark on an unforgettable 5-night, 6-day adventure aboard *Prolific*, where they’ll take part in all aspects of life on board – from hoisting sails and helping with maintenance to night sailing, cooking and cleaning, alongside the rest of the crew. The adventure departs from Southampton in April 2025.

Daniel Horsley, MDL’s Operations Director, comments: “We’re incredibly proud of the hard work, dedication and support shown by our marina teams and customers.

“Raising £10,000 for such a wide range of causes is a huge achievement. We’re proud to back charities that are so close to our hearts and make a real difference in people’s lives.”

For more information on MDL Marinas, including its 18 UK waterside destinations, premium berthing, boatyard services, holiday parks and eco gyms, visit www.mdlmarinas.co.uk

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Notes for editors

MDL Marinas Group Ltd

- MDL Marinas Group is the UK's leading marina and water-based leisure provider and one of Europe's largest marina groups, offering members over 160 destinations to cruise to in the UK, France and Spain. Currently MDL Marinas manages 18 UK marinas and one in Spain.
- MDL Holidays is part of the MDL Marinas Group, offering waterside holidays in luxury lodge and holiday park accommodation.
- New to the MDL Marinas Group, MDL Fitness is a range of green gyms where the fitness equipment converts human kinetic energy into electricity.
- MDL Marinas Group is proud to be landlords to over 500 marine businesses, with over 260 staff delivering the unique MDL experience to all berth holders, visitors and commercial partners.
- For more information visit www.mdlmarinas.co.uk

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