

For immediate release

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## **Historic Llanthony to Commemorate Dunkirk 85th Anniversary, Restored with WEST SYSTEM® Epoxy**

Llanthony, a 77-foot 1934 Camper & Nicholsons motor yacht will journey to Dunkirk this May to commemorate the 85th anniversary of Operation Dynamo. Recently restored by Dennett Boatbuilders, using WEST SYSTEM® Epoxy, the vessel holds historical significance for its role in the 1940 evacuation.

In addition to its recent restoration, Llanthony is distinguished by its wartime contributions. Originally commissioned by Lionel Beaumont-Thomas and subsequently William Astor, the yacht is famed for its participation in the Dunkirk evacuation, facilitating the rescue of approximately 280 personnel. This service was rendered during World War II, directly from the beaches.

Dennett Boatbuilders, a family-operated firm, possesses multi-generational expertise in traditional boatbuilding. The company specialises in the restoration and preservation of historic vessels, integrating time-honoured techniques with modern materials.

Dennett Boatbuilders managed the restoration of Llanthony with careful attention to historical methods and the application of present-day materials. "It is a huge commitment to restore a traditional craft and can often be a daunting experience." says Stephen Dennett of Dennett Boatbuilders. "We believe firmly that it's only by keeping old yachts like Llanthony relevant to modern expectations that they can be kept alive. The use of modern materials and technologies bridges the gap between past and present." Says Stephen.

"Michael Dennett, a skilled boat builder, has been a highly valued customer to us at Marine & Industrial for over 30 years. His expertise and dedication to craftsmanship in the boating industry are evident in the high-quality vessels he creates. We take pride in supporting Michael & Stephen with the products and technical support that helps bring his visions to life. His trust in our products and ongoing partnership have contributed to many successful restorations. We truly appreciate his loyalty and look forward to continuing to serve him with the same level of excellence that he brings to his work." Ben Catchpole, Marine & Industrial.

"We are honoured to have contributed to preserving Llanthony's legacy and to support boatbuilders who give historic boats a renewed life and keep history alive." Sam Oliver, Wessex Resins & Adhesives.

Llanthony's restoration relied greatly on WEST SYSTEM Epoxy for both structural and visual enhancements. This secured the longevity and structural integrity of the vessel. The process involved bonding two layers of marine plywood to the steel subdeck. This was a critical step. Next the subdeck was sheathed with WEST SYSTEM glass cloth. It provides high strength and conformability. Finally, a solid teak deck was epoxy-bonded into position using WEST SYSTEM Epoxy and a filleting blend which ensured secure placement.

The wheelhouse and after roof received identical sheathing treatment. WEST SYSTEM adhesives secured the interior joinery, including mortise and tenon joints, ensuring robust bonding. The ceilings were levelled with WEST SYSTEM 410 Microlight® filler, a compound selected for its suitability in fairing extensive surfaces, ease of application and sandability.

Llanthony will join over 75 fellow Dunkirk Little Ships in Ramsgate this May, for the 85th commemorative return to Dunkirk. Escorted by the Royal Navy 'guard of honour', this voyage is expected to be a key event. Following the Dunkirk commemoration, Llanthony will be attending the St Katharine's Classic Festival and cruise the South Coast of England.

Llanthony's restoration has received a nomination in the Classic Boat Award, Powered Vessels over 40ft category.

The inaugural Classic Boat Awards reflect the dedication and craftsmanship in the industry.

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Notes to editors:

- Wessex Resins and Adhesives manufactures WEST SYSTEM®, PRO-SET®, and Entropy Resins® epoxy products in the UK under license from Gougeon Brothers Inc. and distributes these leading brands across the whole of Europe, Africa, and the Middle East via a well-respected distribution network. Wessex Resins and Adhesives provides international support for the world-renowned WEST SYSTEM, PRO-SET and Entropy Resins epoxy brands.

More about WEST SYSTEM from [eu.westsystem.com](http://eu.westsystem.com)

A selection of images is available online at <https://maa.agency/media-centre/>

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