



Safe Anchor

Safe Anchor Lady Flies

Our boats are in constant use during the boating season, which starts at the beginning of March, so the only time we can work on them is over the winter period. Unfortunately, everyone else does the same, so suitable and available facilities are hard to find. To guarantee a slot, we booked Safe Anchor Lady (SAL) in for a full refurbishment at Mirfield Boat Company over a year ago. This gave us time to raise the funds to pay for the improvements.

After 10 years of hard service SAL is in need of a new paint job and this work needs to be carried out in a dry, dust free and warm environment. There are very few boatyards that can accommodate a boat as large as SAL but fortunately, Mirfield Boat Company can, and the yard is only 10 minutes away from the marina. It did mean that SAL had to be craned out of the canal, over the road and wall and into the yard, from where it will be moved into the enclosed facility.



SAL weighs in at about 27 tonnes and needed a large mobile crane to lift her, which meant closing the road, This exercise was successfully carried out at 07:00 last Saturday.

SAL's last duty was as the Mirfield base for the Santa Special Weekend. From there, we ferried 310 passengers to the marina, with 156 local children visiting Santa.

Over the weekend we raised around £2,500 to cover the cost of the presents to the 372 disadvantaged and disabled children who came to see Santa during the week. For some children, our present was the only one they will get this Christmas.

