

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 19 – 2013

RIVER MEDWAY – BRIDGE REACH

MIDDLE ACORN BERTH

OPERATION TO RAISE SUNKEN LIGHTER

UPDATE TO NOTICE TO MARINERS NO.18 OF 2013, ISSUED ON 9TH AUGUST 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on Thursday 22nd August 2013 operations will continue to raise a sunken lighter in the MIDDLE ACORN BERTH, BRIDGE REACH, River Medway. The works will be carried out over a period of approximately 4 days.

2. The lighter is located in the following approximate position:-

51°23'. 62 N 000°30'. 27 E
3. The raising of the lighter will be undertaken by means of **airbags** attached to the lighter by **divers, at low water**. When divers are in the water the appropriate signals will be displayed. Once the sunken lighter is lifted clear of the river bed by the rise of tide the lighter will be **towed towards Acorn Wharf**. Should there be insufficient clearance to get the lighter alongside at the first attempt the operation will be repeated on the following low water to high water period using shortened lifting wires to the airbags. During the barge lift and subsequent towage operation, the **passage between the Middle Acorn Berth and Acorn Wharf** will be **CLOSED TO NAVIGATION** whilst the operation is underway. Persons in charge of vessels navigating in the vicinity of Bridge Reach must take **due care and attention and pass by at reduced speed**.
4. Further information on the progress of the lifting operation may be obtained from the Medway Navigation Service on VHF Channel 74, callsign "Medway VTS" or telephone (01795) 663025.
5. Admiralty Chart No. 1835 refers.

Cathryn Spain
Harbour Master

21st August 2013

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