

## List of abbreviations used on the radio in the Solent Area.

4 Bar	4 Bar Buoy. Marks the channel into Portsmouth near the harbour entrance. Also 1/2/3 Bar Buoys.
98 Pile	Pile in the North of Portsmouth Harbour with a wind speed monitor.
AIS	Automatic Identification System. A system used by ships and Vessel Traffic Services principally for identification and locating vessels .
AJQ	Albert Johnson Quay in Portsmouth Commercial Port.
ALB	All Weather Lifeboat
All Fast	Mooring up completed.
Alpha	Anchorage in the Solent.
American Wharf	Mooring on the river Itchen used by Itchen Marine Towage tugs.
Ballast Pile	Small craft Portsmouth Harbour crossing point for small craft.
Between the Forts	Radio reporting point between No Mans Land Fort and Horse Sands Fort.
Blockhouse	Where the Southampton pilot vessels moor up in Portsmouth.
BO	Berthing Officer.
Box Boat	Container Ship.
BPJ	British Petroleum Jetty at Hamble.
Brambles Turn	North of Gurnard where vessels turn in the Main Channel
Bravo	Anchorage in the Solent.
Breaking Away	Leaving the berth.
Brought Up	Vessel now anchored.
Bunkers	Fuel oil.
Bunkering	The process of taking on fuel.
Camber (Town)	Commercial dock in Old Portsmouth for Wightlink car ferries, fishing boats, pilot boats and Butchers tugs. Not to be confused with the North Camber which is in the Naval Dockyard.

Cable	One tenth of a nautical mile. 608 feet.
Calshot Guage	Tide gauge at Calshot
Cat	Catamaran - large fender. Also a twin hulled vessel. Shortened word for Fastcat.
Channel 09	Radio Channel. Southampton Pilots
Channel 11	Radio Channel. Ships arriving and departing Portsmouth.
Channel 12	Radio Channel. Ships within, arriving and departing Southampton.
Channel 13	Radio Channel. Ships within Portsmouth Harbour.
Channel 14	Radio Channel. VTS and Portsmouth Harbour radio. Used by VTS as channel 12 alternative when there is interference on channel 12 and for navigation broadcasts.
Channel 16	Radio channel. calling and distress.Call
Channel 19	Radio Channel. Fawley Marine Terminal duplex working channel.
Channel 20	Radio Channel. VTS duplex working channel.
Channel 67	Radio Channel. Small boat safety channel.
Channel 68	Radio Channel. Hamble river.
Channel 69	Radio Channel. Ships in Cowes and the river Medina.
Channel 71	Radio Channel. Southampton/Fawley tug working channel.
Channel 74	Radio Channel. Southampton tug working channel.
Charlie	Anchorage in the Solent. Used by large vessels.
Clear Channel Vessel	All vessels navigating within the Port of Southampton shall ensure that a large vessel (> 220m) shall be given a 'clear channel' between Hook Buoy and the Prince Consort Buoy.The term 'clear channel' is defined as: 'A clear channel vessel is one which requires a clear and unimpeded passage ahead when transiting the Precautionary Area'.
Cold Move	Moving a ship whose engines are not running, with tugs.
Compass Swing	A 360 degree turn for the purposes of compass adjustment. Often done in the region of Charlie

	anchorage off Ryde.
Cowes Triangle	Area of water off Cowes south of a line between Egypt Point and Castle Point.
DARSA	The old US Naval Base at Hythe.
Deep Water Channel	Channel for large vessels just north of the Nab Tower. Nab deep water channel.
Dibles (Wharf or Gut)	Wharf on the river Itchen where aggregates are unloaded.
Dockhead Pass	A preferred passing point for large vessels at Southampton.
DP	Dynamic Positioning. A method by which a vessels holds its position with its propulsion/thrusters automatically controlled with GPS.
Draft	The amount of the vessel below the waterline. Given in metres.
Dummy	Large fender - or someone who is really stupid!
Dunnage	Scrap pieces of material used for stacking cargo.
Esso #	Number of a berth at the Esso Marine Terminal at Fawley. Numbered 0-9.
ETA	Estimated time of arrival.
Exemption	Pilot Exemption Certificate.
Fastcat	Wightlink Catamaran.
Fawley Pass	A preferred passing point for large vessels.
Figures #	Number of passengers on board.
Flagship	Pontoon in Portsmouth Dockyard used by small craft and harbour tours.
Flathouse Quay	Quay in Portsmouth Commercial Docks.
Fog Routine	Fog Routine in Portsmouth Harbour will be ordered by the Queen's Harbour Master (QHM) when visibility is so low that normal shipping movements would be dangerous. It requires vessels to report on the radio more frequently than under conditions of normal visibility.
Forts in (or out)	Radio reporting point. See between the Forts.
Freeboard	The distance between the gunwales and the water.
Front Line	Anchorage off Cowes.

Going to stations	Preparing to depart.
Green to Green	Oncoming vessels to pass Starboard to Starboard.
Gunwharf	Marina berths near Spinnaker Tower
Harbour Station	Fastcat Terminal at Portsmouth.
Heaving Anchor	Raising the anchor
Hook in (out)	Radio reporting point near Fawley.
Hopper Barge	0
Hulk Moorings	Barge used as a layby berth for Wightlink ferries. Opposite the Harbour Station in Portsmouth.
Hythe Line	A line between Hythe Pier and the Weston Shelf buoy.
ILB	Inshore Lifeboat
Inerted	Tanker with holds flushed with an inert gas – often nitrogen.
Inner Swashway	Channel to and from Portsmouth close to the mainland shore used by very small vessels. Not a buoyed channel.
Gilkicker	Radio reporting point. On the mainland opposite Ryde.
Light Float	Calshot Spit light float marking the outermost point of Calshot Spit sand bar and eastern end of the Thorn Channel.
Linkspan	Unloading ramp for car ferries and RoRo vessels.
Main Channel	Used by large vessel leaving Southampton to the east.
Mary Rose	Radio reporting point for ships entering Portsmouth by the Swashway.
MAYDAY	Distress call.
Mexifloat	Floating platforms that can be act as barges or floating wharf sections.
Mikes	Minutes. Sometimes used by naval vessels.
MMD	Mainland Market Deliveries. Company that operates Portsmouth commercial port.
Mother Bank	Anchorage off Ryde for Small vessels.
Nab 351 and 295	Aggregate dredging area to the east of the Isle of Wight.

Nab Anchorage	Anchorage off the south east coast of the Isle of Wight usually reserved for larger vessels. Numbered 1-12.
Nab Dump	Designated spoil dumping ground near the Nab Tower.
Nab Tower	A Tower at the south end of the Nab deep water channel. Used as a pilot boarding point.
New Grounds	Off Bembridge. Vessels with shallow draft may pass over the New Grounds instead of using the Nab deep water channel
NOC	National Oceanography Centre (Southampton Empress Dock).
North Channel	Used by medium sized vessels leaving Southampton to the east. Often used at high tide.
North of the Ryde	Keeping to the north of the Ryde Middle bank. Used by vessels when the main channel has conflicting traffic.
Numbers #	Number of passenger. All passenger vessels must report the number of passengers when departing.
Numbers to Follow	Number of passengers on board will be given shortly.
Ocean Village	Marina in Southampton.
Oil Fuel Jetty	Jetty on the western side of Portsmouth Harbour.
On the Swash	A vessels using the Swashway. (See Swashway).
Open carrier (or Mic)	When a vessel has a jammed microphone and is transmitting continuously.
OSB	Outer Spit Buoy at the entrance to the channel into Portsmouth.
Out to the East	Leaving the Solent to the east probably passing the Nab Tower.
Out to the West	Leaving the Solent via the Needles. Smaller ships only.
Outside the Greens	Keeping outside of the starboard side of the shipping channel. i.e. outside the green buoys
Outside the Reds	Keeping outside of the port side of the shipping channel. i.e. outside the red buoys
PAN PAN	Urgency call.
Panama Lead	A special fairlead at the ends of a ship for use

	when being towed in the Panama Canal
PC	Prince Consort - Buoy off Cowes
PEC	Pilot exemption certificate.
POB	Passengers on Board.
Port Side to	Vessel moors with it's port side towards the berth.
Port Solent	A Marina north of Portsmouth Harbour.
Private	A private radio channel. Cowes - channel 40 Solent and Wightline Cruises - channel 43 Southampton VTS - channel 103 RNLI boathouse and Gosport Ferry - channel 31 Inshore lifeboats - channel 50 Coastguard - channel 0
QHM	Queens Harbour Master.
QM	Quartermaster
RCY	Royal Clarence Yard in Portsmouth Harbour.
Red Jet	Red Funnel high speed ferry.
Red to Red	Oncoming vessels to pass port to port.
Reduction	Speed Reduction. Often requested by vessels on berth so that wash does not hinder bunkering or loading operations.
RIB	Rigid inflatable boat.
RLC	Royal Logistics Corp terminal at Marchwood.
Round Tower Complex	Jetty for small craft at the north end of Portsmouth Harbour.
Saxon	Wharf for coasters on the river Itchen by Northam Bridge Southampton
Saltmead	Anchorage off Thorness Bay (IOW).
Securite	Precedes a broadcast concerning the safety of navigation. Pronounced 'saycuritay'.
Shackles	Anchor chain is divided up into lengths called a shackle. One shackle = 90 feet.
Single Up	Just before a vessel departs all mooring points will be reduced to a single rope.
Slip (Slipping)	Leaving a berth or mooring.

Small Boat Channel	Channel on the west side of Portsmouth Harbour entrance for small pleasure craft.
Small Ships	Anchorage in Southampton Water near Fawley.
Souls	Persons.
South Ryde	Radio reporting point. South Ryde Middle Buoy.
SP	Southampton Patrol.
SERCO	Company contracted to operate tugs and other vessels in Portsmouth.
Spoil	0
Spithead	Stretch of water to the south of Portsmouth. Several numbered anchorages in this area.
St Helens	Anchorage for small and medium sized vessels. Often used by small gas/product tankers.
Starboard Side to	Vessel moors with it's starboard side towards the berth.
Sturbridge	North Sturbridge buoy off Ryde. Pilot station for smaller vessels.
Sullage	Sewage or refuse
Svitzer	Company that operates tugs in Southampton.
Swashway	Channel to and from Portsmouth used by small vessels. Not a buoyed channel.
Swing	180 degree turn a vessel makes. Often done in a designated swinging ground or off the berth.
Swinging Ground	An area of water designated for vessels to swing.
Take the weight	Request to tug to put tension on the towing line.
The Hulk	Barge used as a layby berth for Wightlink ferries. Opposite the Harbour Station in Portsmouth.
The New Bridge	The Itchen Bridge
The Village	Ocean Village Marina.
Thorn Channel	Used by vessels transiting to/from the west and large vessels transiting to/from the east via the main channel.
Tidal Basin	Tidal dock in Portsmouth Harbour.
UMC Divers	Underwater Maintenance Company. Diving company used in Portsmouth.

US	Unserviceable. Not Working.
Victoria Pile	Channel marker on the eastern side of Portsmouth Harbour entrance.
VTS	Vessel Traffic Service.
VTSO	VTS Officer.
War Memorial	Radio reporting point at Southsea.
Waterline	Where the side of the ship meets the water.
Weigh Anchor	Raising the anchor.
West of the Tower	Vessel to transit west of the Nab Tower.
Weston Shelf	Radio reporting point near Southampton.
Wide Berth	Vessel has to keep clear. Often requested by vessels on berth so that wash does not hinder bunkering or loading operations.
Yokohama Fender (Yoko)	Large air filled fender. Trade name for Yokohama Rubber Company