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NORTH BISCAY
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Caution

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this supplement. It contains selected information and thus is not definitive and does not include all known information on the subject in hand; this is particularly relevant to the plans, which should not be used for navigation. The Author and Imray Laurie Norie and Wilson Ltd believe that its selection is a useful aid to prudent navigation, but the safety of a vessel depends ultimately on the judgement of the navigator, who should assess all information, published or unpublished, available to him.

This supplement contains amendments and corrections sent in by cruising yachtsmen and women, in addition to those taken from official sources such as *Notices to Mariners*. The authors and publisher would like to thank users of the pilot who have kindly submitted information. In particular we are grateful for the reports from Pierre Maillet, Mike and Pat Pocock and Michael Slater in 2005; from Bill Roberts and Phil Batten in 2006; and from Graham Adams, Henry Buchanan, Robert Sansom and George Whitchurch in 2007.

The updating of pilot guides is an ongoing process and the publisher is always pleased to receive information, sketch charts or photographs for incorporation in future supplements or new editions.

Page references are made to *North Biscay*, 7th edition, 2005.

The last input of technical information was March 2008.

Mike and Gill Barron
March 2008

This supplement is cumulative. Corrections added since Supplement No. 3 are highlighted in blue and marked with an asterisk *.

Page 17 Plan 1

Delete fog signal, Whis, and associated symbol, at light-buoy La Valbelle in position 48°26'.42N 4°50'.02W.

Page 17 Chenal du Four

Plan 1 **Rouget light-buoy** 48°22'.1N 4°48'.9W delete *Whis*.

* Page 17 Chenal du Four

Plan 1 **Plâtresses** sectored light tower has been removed. Plâtresses SE SHM has been lit and a new lit SHM Plâtresses N has been laid just north of the old tower.

Page 21 Goulet de Brest

Plan 2 **Basse du Charles Martel** buoy (port) 48°18'.9N 4°42'.2W delete *Whis*

Plan 2 **Fillettes** buoy WCM 48°19'.8N 4°35'.7W delete *Whis*

Page 25 Brest

A new marina is proposed between the Rade Abri and the Port de Commerce. Work is on-going but the date of completion is not known.

Page 27 Landernau

Recent report does not recommend drying out at Landernau due to increased silting against the wall, making it difficult to avoid leaning inwards uncomfortably.

Page 35 Camaret-sur-Mer

Plan 7 does not show the fuel dock available at Port Vauban which is accessed from inside and outside of the N end of the wave breaker.

Page 37 Camaret to Morgat

Plan 8 **Basse Vieille** buoy IDM 48°8'.2N 4°35'.8W delete *Whis*

Page 47 Ile de Sein

Plan 11 **Cornoc-an-ar-Braden** buoy (starboard) 48°3'.2N 4°50'.9W delete *Whis*

* Page 47 Ile de Sein

Plan 11 Ile de Sein main light now has an additional direction light centred on 270°. The new characteristic is Fl(4)25s49m29M and Dir.Q.WRG.8/6M.

Page 50 Data box at top of page

(5.7kns) should be deleted from last line in first column and appended to the end of the first line of the second column so that it reads N – Brest HW +4¾ to -¾ (5.7kns).

Page 55 Audierne

Plan 14 New buoy PHM 48°00'.7N 4°32'.3W. Note that this is very close to waypoint 97.

Plan 14 **Gabelle Ouest** WCM 47°59'.5N 4°32'.9W delete *Whis*.

* Page 58

Plan II Ile aux Moutons light has been changed to Iso.WRG.15-11M

Page 62 Lesconil

The main harbour has been dredged. The entrance now has a depth of 1.5m and much of the inner harbour has a depth of 3m.

* Page 64 Loctudy

Visitor's Report 2007: Pilotage

From Bilieu ECM proceed NW until Les Perdrix chequered beacon is in line with the white Chateau Durumain on 289°. Follow this transit until just past the Karek Croisic port hand channel buoy, which is left to starboard. Then alter course to port entering the river leaving the two green SHM buoys to starboard. Note that the shallow rocky patch between the Marina and Ile Tudy is not marked.

*Page 65

Plan 18 Les Perdrix is no longer lit.

Ashore in Loctudy

Free bicycles are available at the marina during office hours.

Page 67 Sainte Marine

The harbourmaster has reported that visitors are not limited to a stay of one night and may stay as long as they wish.

* Page 73 River Odet

Lanroz anchorage

The anchorage is on the W side of the river just S of Lanroz.

* Page 82 Concarneau

Visitors' Report 2007

There is a marked line of pontoon berths for visiting yachts up to 42ft. Larger yachts are berthed inside the wave barrier.

* Page 83 Concarneau

Plan 23 Le Cochon light now has an obscured sector from 207° to 230°.

* Page 89 River Aven and Port Manec'h

Visitors' Report 2007

Visitors' buoys off harbour now laid in only 1m and I am informed by a local retired master mariner, poorly maintained. Some fore and aft moorings are occasionally available upstream from the bar although even here there is a maximum of 2m.

* Page 91 Belon

Visitors' report 2007: Mooring

Mooring in the Bélon river is available in the trot of three large Visiteur buoys on the N side of the bend before Port Bélon. These buoys are joined by mooring lines and are white drum shaped buoys 6ft in diameter and riding 3ft out of the water. There is a rail around the circumference at the top to which mooring lines can be secured.

There are a further 7–8 standard white mooring buoys, rather close together, between the Chez Jacky restaurant on the N bank and the Bureau du Port on the S bank.

Page 94 Doëlan approach and entrance

By day

Delete final sentence and replace with: This transit passes a red beacon PHM marking Basse le Croix and the SHM buoy that replaces Le Four tower, destroyed in 1996.

Page 95 Doëlan

Plan 27 **Leading lights** 014° Rear 47°46'.5N 3°36'.3W light characteristic changed to Oc(3)R.12s27m9M.

Page 96 Le Poldhu

The harbourmaster reports that in April 2007 the entrance channel was close to the bank on the W side through the first bay and then crossed to the Guidel Plage side. The E channel, shown by dotted lines on Plan 28, was not open. Apparently, there should be 'plenty of water' over the bar at high

water on a tide with a coefficient of 85 or more for a boat drawing 1.5m.

The deep water on the E side of the river N of the Port de Plaisance is completely full of moorings but these may be available by application to the harbourmaster and can take boats up to 12m, although the official maximum length for visitors is 9.5m.

* Page 100 Port Lorient

Visitors' Report 2007

Marina in the centre of town has excellent facilities and says that they usually have space for visitors even in high season. 45-ton travel lift.

Page 101 Lorient

Plan 30 Les Truies Ouest SHM 47°41'.1N 3°23'.4W delete *Whis*

* Page 101 Lorient

Plan 30 The two green SHM's just W of Ile Saint-Michel have both had their light characteristics changed to Dir.Q.G.

Page 102 Lorient – Locmiquelic (Ste-Catherine)

The marina has been enlarged and enclosed and has a lit entrance. See www.locmiquelic.com for details and a good aerial photograph.

Page 102 Lorient – Kernével

The marina has been enlarged. Visitors pontoon is at the S end of the N basin.

Page 103

Lorient – Blavet River

The Blavet river is now well marked all the way to Hennebont. The small pontoon close to the bridge was much used by local boats, particularly after work. There is a fore and aft mooring, marked visitors, at the top end of the trot. This is suitable for a maximum of two small boats.

* Page 104 Port Louis and Locmalo

Visitors' Report 2007

Excellent shelter and a regular ferry service in to Lorient. Berths limited to a maximum of 15m L.O.A. and a draft of 2.5m. Magnificent Citadel (built by the Spanish!) well worth a visit – also houses an excellent SNSM (Lifeboats) museum.

* Page 108 Locmaria

Visitors' Report 2007: Pilotage

The cottage that is the back transit of the leading line is mainly obscured by a hedge.

Page 112 Etel

Etel Marina has been extended northwards and enclosed. The tidal stream is much reduced inside the marina although we have had a report of turbulence making manoeuvring difficult. Take care when entering or leaving as you pass from the fast tide in the river to the slacker tide inside the marina or vice versa.

Page 117 Chart IVB

46 Port du Crouesty should be 45 Port du Crouesty
45 Golfe de Morbihan should be 46 Morbihan anchorages.

Page 121 Le Palais – The wet basin and La Saline marina

In final paragraph, replace ‘0700 daily’ with ‘HW±½ on request’.

The lifting bridge opens at HW±½hr, on request.

* Plan 36 The harbour entrance lights have been changed to QR and QG.

* *Page 117 Quiberon Bay*

Chart IVB Delete Whis at Ouest Basse Capella light-buoy

* *Page 118 Sauzon*

Visitors’ Report 2007

There are 30 visitors’ mooring buoys outside harbour – close but fine up to about 45ft. With the harbourmaster’s consent the ferry buoys outside the harbour may be used overnight after the last ferry has left. Harbour buoys are reserved for yachts up to 12m. There is plenty of space in the inner harbour for yachts that can take the ground. Water is available on the quay in the inner harbour.

* *Page 120 Le Palais*

Visitors’ Report 2007

Visitors’ buoys now laid outside the harbour.

Page 129 Plan 39

Er Rouzès ECM shown as a buoy at 47°22’N 2°54’W is a temporary buoy marking the position of the damaged Er Rouzès ECM beacon.

Page 131 Ile Hoëdic – Argol via the Soeurs Passage
By day

Men Groise N beacon tower should be Men Groise ECM beacon tower.

Page 133 Plan 40

Er Rouzès ECM shown as a buoy at 47°22’N 3°54’W is a temporary buoy marking the position of the damaged Er Rouzès ECM beacon.

Er Palaire WCM shown as a buoy at 47°20’N 3°55’W is a temporary buoy marking the position of the damaged Er Palaire WCM beacon.

Page 140 Approach to the Morbihan

By day

In the last sentence of the first paragraph, ‘starboard’ should be changed to ‘port’ so the sentence reads:

Approach leaving Méaban SCM and Bagen Hir ECM to port.

Page 147

Port Navalo

The final sentence should read:

This spot is exposed to the W and disturbed by the wash from ferries.

Port du Crouesty – Plan 45

Amend the light on **North Jetty Head**, in position 47°32’.48N 2°54’.14W to read – Fl.R.4s9m7M (shown on Plan as Oc(2)R).

* *Page 151 Morbihan Anchorages*

Plan 46 Several of the buoys between Pte de D’Arradon and the passage between Brouel SHM have been relaid in slightly different positions.

* *Page 158 Pénerf*

Visitors’ Report 2007

Pénerf is not really organised for visitors and is a busy oyster and sea food river with processing facilities along the river bank at Pénerf. The nearest shop is at Damgan 4km away but apart from Le Café Pecheur restaurant (☎ 02 97 41 10 38) the only other facility is a bistro/bar. The Bureau du Port was shut but a plan of moorings outside suggested that there was only one mooring buoy for visitors. This had the words Visiteur marked rather illegibly on a white buoy that was the furthest upstream from Pénerf quay in the deepest water.

Page 160 The Vilaine to Arzal

Depth restrictions. The outer approach to the Vilaine is silting and the depths are ‘marginal’. It is best to assume 0.5m over the bar.

* *Page 160 The Vilaine to Arzal*

The phone number of Arzal-Camoel Marina is ☎ 02 97 45 02 97. The listed number is the fax number.

Page 161 Plan 48A

The transit of Billiers church in line with Penlan lighthouse should be 025° (not 023°)

The W Varlingue passage

Second sentence should read:

The transit is Billiers church in line with Penlan lighthouse on 025° (not 026°).

Page 161 The Vilaine to Arzal

Plan 48A. The transit of Billiers church in line with Penlan lighthouse should be 025° (not 023°)

The W Varlingue passage – by day

The transit is Billiers church in line with Penlan lighthouse on 025° (not 026°).

Page 162 The Vilaine to Arzal

Facilities at Arzal. Fuel has been moved away from the quay to a dedicated pontoon.

Page 165 La Roche Bernard – Port Neuf

The visitors’ pontoon has been replaced by a 60 berth marina. Visitors should look for a berth on the first finger of the downstream side or call the marina office.

Page 166 Redon – Cran Bridge

Cran bridge has clearance of 5.8m. Its opening times have changed and are now 0900, 1000, 1100, 1430, 1630, 1830 and 1930 in summer.

Page 167 Redon – Berths

Visitors’ pontoons are on the port side just through the lock. However other empty berths can still be used with the harbourmaster’s permission.

Page 167 Ashore in Redon

The excellent covered market is open Mondays, Fridays and Saturday mornings. Also there is a large Leclerc hypermarket within a mile along the road to Nantes.

Page 174 Le Croisic approach and entrance

By day

Amend the final sentence to read:

For an anchorage or mooring, when the fish market is abeam, turn to port to enter Le Pool or to starboard to go up to the drying harbour.

Page 177 Le Pouliguen

Visitors' report

This port has smartened up even more with a new Capitainerie, marina toilets and showers in the old Yacht Club building at the entrance on the Eastern bank. The old toilets and showers are still available above the bridge, but the old Harbour Office has now closed down. There are many new pontoons and Le Pouliguen is now as smart as Pornichet. The Yacht Club appears closed mid-week even in July. A very welcoming marina.

* Page 178 Pornichet

Visitors' Report 2007: Facilities

The pontoon to starboard as you enter the marina has been significantly extended.

Pilotage

The SW approach – the Passe des Troves – is now marked to the W by a red port hand buoy (Les Evens) with cylindrical top mark and to the E by a green starboard hand buoy (Les Troves) with conical top mark.

Page 189 L'Herbaudière – Berths

The visitors' pontoon has been redeveloped to give more visitor space and better protection from the NW swell. The new visitors' berth is the first pontoon on the port side but in season there is usually a harbourmaster's dory to meet visitors' boats.

Page 197 Port de la Meule

In second paragraph, amend 'bear' to 'bears' and 'the lighthouse' to 'Les Chiens Perrins WCM beacon'.

Page 199 Saint-Gilles-Croix-de-vie – Caption to Photo 64.2

In line 3 'N jetty' should read 'Grand Môle'.

Page 200 Les Sables d'Olonne – Caption to Photo 65.2

Second sentence should read:

Visitors must secure to the pontoon and report to the office to be given a berth.

Page 205 Jard-sur-mer. Pilotage and Plan 67

The white beacons giving an approach transit of 038° have been slightly moved and the approach transit is now 036°.

Page 209 Charante – Chart V11B – Les Baleineaux – Light

Amend the light in position 46°16'N 1°35'W to read VQ.23m7M.

Page 213 Marans – Plan 69

A recent visitor reports that the Fairway Buoy (⊕403) has been moved to 46°16'.8N 01°10'.2W (⊕404 is unchanged). There was sufficient depth

found to lie afloat over LW at a short distance above Le Corps de Garde (which is useful if locking out of Maranse in the late afternoon).

Page 217 Ars-en-Ré

Plan 70A Le Fier d'Ars leading lights 265.8° have been replaced by a directional light Dir Oc.WRG.4s10-7M.

* Page 217 Ars-en-Ré

Plan 70A The green buoys, **Boucheron 1** and **Boucheron 3**, are now lit.

Page 219 Saint-Martin-de-Ré. Plan 71

Amend the light on NE Point of Grand Môle to – Fl.G.2.5s10m5M (position 46°12'.49N 1°21'.92W).

Page 221 La-Flotte-en-Ré. Plan 72

The visitors' berth shown on the hammerhead in the outer harbour on Plan 72 is shown on some other charts as being dredged so that yachts may lie afloat. A recent visitor reports that, as of July 2005, it dried to very soft mud.

* Page 223 La Rochelle

Visitors' Report 2007: Port des Minimes

The marina was very full (end June 2007) and casual visitors were limited to rafted berths alongside pontoon No. 15 in the SE corner of the Bassin de Lazaret. Large sections of this were occupied by new catamarans awaiting delivery.

* Page 226 Ile d'Aix

Visitors' Report 2007:

Berths – SE of Pointe Sainte-Catherine

There are four white mooring buoys (at 46°00'.29N 001°10'.11W) in approximately 2.4m. Additionally there are a number of drying visitors' buoys that are white with dayglo green bands closer inshore.

* Page 235 St-Denis D'Oleron

Visitors' Report 2007

Plan 77 The chartlet in *REEDS Nautical Almanac* (2007) page 908 gives a better representation of the buoyed channel and also the relative position of the Waiting Buoys.

Berths

The visitors' pontoon (Pontoon A) is the first one to port on entry just beyond the fuel dock. Boats >10m berth alongside/rafted on the S side while those <10m berth on finger pontoons on the N side, but expect to be met by the harbourmaster's launch. There is a tide gauge on the mole to the W of the marina entrance marked with tabs at 0.5m intervals from the top of the sill. The top tab is at 5m. The gauge is frankly of no use on entering the marina because the entry channel shelves very gradually up to the 'sill' and it cannot be seen at any distance off. As the marina is reported to silt it is of more use in calculating the height of 'LW marina' at the chosen berth provided the height above the sill is noted on entry, or on exit to confirm that tidal calculations are correct!

There are three waiting buoys 1M ENE of the entrance.

Page 239 Boyardville

By day and Caption 79.2. The fuelling structure illustrated in the photograph 79.2 has been removed.

** Page 239 Boyardville*

Visitors' Report 2007: Visitors' Moorings

About ½M NNW of La Perrotine SHM there are four white visitors' buoys (PL29, PL30, PL31, PL32) (45°58'.598N 01°13'.624W) and just further N a large number of small craft moorings. The visitors' buoys are about ½ mile NNW of La Perrotine SHM and 1.4 miles NNE of the mole head light at Boyardville. The visitors' buoys are also just NW of the transit between Fort Boyard to the NNE and the mole head at Boyardville to the SSW, both lit.

Page 241 Plan 80A

Agnas ECM has been changed to Agnas SHM.

Page 245 Approaches to La Gironde – Plan 81A

Delete fog signal, Whis at G Buoy, in position 45°30'.4N 1°15'.4W.

Page 249 Port Medoc – New Marina

A recent report indicates that the ⊕446 is in position 45°33'.40N 01°03'.45W. The reception berth is now at the far end by the Capitainerie (not at the marina entrance).

Page 257

Le Rouget buoy (starboard) 48°22'.04N 4°48'.88W delete *Whis*

Fillettes buoy (WCM) 48°19'.8N 4°35'.7W delete *Whis*

Basse Vieille buoy (IDM) 48°8'.2N 4°35'.8W delete *Whis*

** Les Plâtresses has been removed.*

Page 258

Cornoc-an-ar-Braden buoy (starboard) 48°3'.2N 4°50'.9W delete *Whis*

Karreg Kreiz (ECM) 47°46'.0N 4°11'.4W delete *Whis*

Page 259 Doëlan

Leading lights 014° *Rear* 47°46'.5N 3°36'.3W light characteristic changed to Oc(3)R.12s27m9M

Page 262

Les Baleineaux 46°15'.8N 1°35'.2W light characteristic changed to VQ.23m7M

Le Fier d'Ars leading lights 265.8° have been replaced by a directional light Dir Oc.WRG.4s10-7M.

Saint-Martin-de-Ré

Mole head 46°12'.5N 1°21'.9W light characteristic changed to Fl.G.2.5s10m5M.