

## The Golden Hinde



### Sanicubic Macerator Pump

Taking pride of place at St Mary Overie Dock in Cathedral Street, London Bridge is a stunning replica of the famous ship, the Golden Hinde, which circumnavigated the globe in the 16th Century under the command of British explorer, Sir Francis Drake.

In 1973 a replica was commissioned to mark the 400th anniversary of her voyage by Albert Elledge, president of a San Francisco tugboat and harbour-tour line, and Art Blum, a publicist and Vice-President of San Francisco's Convention and Visitors' Bureau. Built in Britain to an exacting design replicating the original Galleon, The Golden Hinde set sail from Falmouth in October 1975 on its maiden voyage, landing in San Francisco some six months later. She continued to travel the globe prior to touring the British Isles and in 1984 the ship passed into the capable hands of Roddy Coleman. Once again, the ship set sail and spent six years travelling the globe; regaling visitors with the tales of Drake and crew. The ship finally settled into a new home in London Bridge in 1996; leaving just once in 2003, as guest of honour at the Southampton International Boat Show.

In dry dock the ship has continued to educate and entertain in its capacity as a floating museum and venue for events. The COVID-19 epidemic gave pause to this activity and refurbishment plans brought forward to preserve the future of the iconic ship.

A makeshift woodshop and joinery has been set up in the dry dock and a team of joiners work there under the professional eye of full-time team member, Toby Millinder; a skilled craftsman in marine carpentry. In the yard are two cabins each with a WC and basin for the use of the staff. The waste is removed by a Saniflo Sanicubic that is housed in its

very own shed. This unit, according to Roddy, is faultless. Installed by Toby and discharging into a sewer at street level, it has given years of impeccable service.

As part of the refurbishment of the ship, the engine room at the bow was removed and two separate WC cubicles built. Importantly, the basins were installed outside the WC. For overnight guests - usually groups of children - it made sense to separate the two to ensure quicker ablutions. To discharge the waste from this area, another Sanicubic was chosen and installed in a hatch under the floor. This unit not only discharges waste from the WC's but also from a kitchen area built on the gun deck that enables in-house catering for events. The Sanicubic is connected to dishwasher, kitchen sink, icemaker as well as the two WC's.

Roddy, who has overseen every step of the works, was adamant about installing another Sanicubic;

**“ Prior to the renovations we had two WC's on board that had individual Saniflo units tucked behind them. They worked perfectly well, but access was difficult due to the constrained space on board. The new pump has enabled us to install catering facilities and to organise the space much better. We have built in the bathrooms into the old engine room using oak which was sympathetic of the era and ties in with the rest of the ship. This not only looks stunning, but gives us a much more practical area for guests.**

Toby, with his maintenance team, planned the discharge route for the 110mm pipework. The pipe runs up through the deckhead, out of the haws hole at the back of the ship from the starboard side and is fixed onto the dock wall.



## The Golden Hinde (contd.)



The docks beneath the ship have been turned into a workshop with full joinery equipment



This toilet block in the dry dock connects to the Saniflo that is located directly behind them



The pipework on the dock wall takes waste from the Saniflo and pumps it up and along the pipes to the main sewer



The original Saniflo has its own casing in the dock and takes the waste from two WC's for staff and visitors



The doors to the bathroom facilities are produced in the workshop and are built sympathetically to the renovation



The WC's on board previously had a Saniflo macerator behind each. They now plumb into the Saniflo.



A catering sink with glass washer is plumbed into the Saniflo on board and has a hot and cold water feed



The hand wash basins have been sited separate to the WC to speed up nighttime ablutions

It then runs a further 20m into a non-return valve and T's together with the existing Saniflo where the waste from both units empties into a sewer. With plenty of pumping performance, the unit provides an efficient waste solution for the Golden Hinde.

A further benefit of specifying a Saniflo is that it enabled the installation of hot water. As well as facilitating the catering, it makes handwashing much more hygienic.

The ship, which is now holding selected events will be back open to the public in 2021. Improvements include the lowering of the floor on the main deck to improve head

height, bench seating around the perimeter and all interior wood has been sandblasted taking it back to its original colour and improving the light on board. New hatches have improved ventilation and air flow.

The ship, which has completed more miles on the water than all other replica ships put together, is open for events, including weddings, and will open to the public in the near future. According to Roddy, 'Saniflo's Saniflo was central to achieving the restoration and – as with its counterpart on the dock – is a faultless piece of kit'.

