

## Case Study

### Mumbles Rainwater Harvesting

#### Background



Sea view from Mumbles YC

Mumbles Sailing club was established in 1938. It has a club house facing the seafront, but space is very limited. Opposite the club is a large car park next to the shore. The club gained permission and a grant to build a workshop for repair and storage of boats. This they did and built the workshop in the car park.



Mumbles Yacht Club



Workshop in car park

### **What is the problem**

Although there was electricity to the workshop, there was not a water supply. There was a need for a water supply so that people could wash their hands after working there and also for rinsing boats down.

### **What is being done to solve it**

It was decided that a useful way of solving the problem was to harvest rainwater. This had the advantage of being both cheap and environmentally friendly. However, the workshop was built without drain pipes. This meant that an open water butt had to be placed under a channel in the roof. They put a pump into the butt so that they could pipe the water into the workshop.



Back of workshop with water butt next to back door.



Water butt with pump

### **Lessons learnt**

To date this has been very effective. Being open is a potential problem but that can be easily solved by putting a few drops of cooking oil onto the water to prevent mosquitoes laying their eggs in the water. It is a cheap and sustainable solution to the problem of providing a water supply without having to incur the cost of piping water in and providing drainage. It would have been better if rainwater harvesting had been built into the design right at the beginning as retro fitting is not as easy or as effective.

### **Web resources**

<http://www.mumblesyachtclub.co.uk/>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainwater\\_harvesting](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainwater_harvesting)

<http://www.therenewableenergycentre.co.uk/rainwater-harvesting>

<http://www.britishecoc.com/files/ecopagedownloads-filename-199.pdf>

<http://www.savetherain.info/>