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|  | IWAI CARRICK-ON-SHANNON  Spring 2019 Update  May 2019 | |
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| Newsletter Date |
| In This Issue   * **Carrick Cares Day Outsider Magazine Waterways Ireland Award** * **Visit to Titanic Belfast** * **Regional Waterways Ireland/IWAI Meeting update** * **Council Update** * **Branch Meeting** * **Branch Diary & June Cruise In Company** * **Membership Survey Results** * **Membership**   Contact Us  **iwaicarrick@gmail.com** |  | **CARRICK CARES DAY**  Now in its 8th year the Carrick Cares Day continues in popularity with our VIP guests. Our numbers last year were slightly down on the previous year as the day clashed with the Pope’s visit to Ireland, however we expect our numbers will be back to normal for this year's event. The Cares Day received special recognition this year with the presentation of 2018 "Waterways Champion Award" by Outsider Magazine. Well done to Linda Garland and Thomas Meegan who had the dream and made it a reality, and to all the IWAI Carrick (and wider IWAI branch) members who |
| have helped make this event so special over the years. The Waterways Champion Award, supported by Waterways Ireland, celebrates the groups or individuals behind the best initiative/event on or near a waterway managed by Waterways Ireland. Well done to all who have been involved in the Carrick Cares Day over the years, it wouldn't happen without the help of all the volunteers.  If you would like to help out with this year's event to be held in Lough Key Forest Park on Saturday 31st August 2019, please contact the branch secretary at **i**[**waicarrick@gmail.com**](mailto:waicarrick@gmail.com)**.** | |
| **VISIT TO TITANIC BELFAST**  16th February saw 21 members travelling to Belfast Titanic Experience. The day was a very enjoyable and interesting one with each member free to view the exhibition at our own pace and joining up together at the end of exhibition for a well-deserved cuppa before departing to go our separate ways though there are rumors that a few cocktails were had by some members later that evening!! | |
| **REGIONAL WATERWAYS IRELAND/IWAI MEETING**  March 6th saw a meeting being held with Waterways Ireland attended by Waterways Ireland (WI) Eanna Rowe Regional Manager, Patrick Harkin Inspector of Navigation, Brian Treacy, North Shannon Senior Engineer. Colin Corcoran and Jean Kennedy attended from Carrick Branch.  Carrick Branch put forward a number of discussion items detailed as follows with WI’s response.   1. Speed of craft on the river when passing moored vessels especially at Carnadoe, Kilglass and Ardnaffin. **Response: Very difficult to police.** 2. Hartley Bridge update. **Response: new bridge has improved clearance** 3. Roosky jetties update. **Response: Planning has been lodged again and more information submitted as requested. If permission is granted the jetties will be installed this year. They will be on the lock side of the lifting bridge – 15m back form Fallon’s old stone jetty.** 4. Albert Lock update. **Response: Access will be facilitated when it is dewatered in winter 2019.** 5. Carrick Cares Day – wheelchair accessible boats are needed to facilitate all guests who want to go out on the river. IWAI Derg and WI both have pioneer boats. **IWAI Carrick to explore the insurance issue.** 6. Waiting jetties at Clarendon Lock – the lock can only be seen from the front jetty. The traffic light is not working correctly and trees can obstruct the view. **Response: WI is aware of the situation and is working on a solution.** 7. Shannon Erne Canal 25th Anniversary plans. HBA and IWAI Royal Canal planning on travelling up the Shannon Erne at the end of July. **Response: IWAI Carrick to contact Derek McGrath WI Senior Engineer for the Shannon Erne.** 8. Algae growing on the waterways. **Response: nothing that can be done about that. It is a natural occurrence in times of low rainfall, warm temperatures and high humidity** 9. Harbour hogging. **Response: 231 boats in winter moorings on WI jetties from Belturbet to Limerick. 221 have paid their winter mooring fee. 29 are on the public jetties in Carrick which will pose a problem come Easter weekend, as it will be difficult to get them to move on.** | |
|  | **COUNCIL UPDATE**  A council meeting was held on March 30th and was attended by two executive members. Items discussed included:  **Finances**  Up 10% on 2017  **Capitation** A review of capitation was carried out. Last year ratio was 60:40. The review indicated that National Exec requires 55% to carry out activities. It was agreed by National Executive that capitation would change to 55:40 ratio with the additional 5% ring fenced into a project fund. The National Executive considered that this would be more beneficial particularly to smaller branches where a 5% increase would be quite a small amount.  **Child Protection** presentation was made Alan Kelly National Designated Liaison Person (NDLP) for Child Protection. Carrick Branch is fully compliant with the guidelines. Karl Byrne is the Branch Child Protection Officer and Colin Corcoran is the Events Child Protection Officer. At a recent Branch Executive Committee it was agreed that as many members of the Executive as possible will complete the Child Protection training and  Garda Vetting process.  **WI/IWAI Shannon Regional Meeting** Kay Baxter Hon. Secretary National Executive gave a briefing on Winter Mooring and Power Shut down over the winter period. Power points have on occasions been seriously vandalised.  WI are proposing 4 changes as follows   1. No lock fee – to be replaced with an annual licence. Before a licence fee is implemented IWAI will seek a written agreement from WI detailing exactly what our members will get for the licence fee. 2. Abolish Winter Mooring – IWAI in favour. 3. 3 Day Rule for Popular Harbours. IWAI would propose that a number of berths be for transient traffic only. If not transient that normal 5 day rule would apply. 4. Introduction of a fixed Penalty Notice for overstay.   Branches have been asked to advise National Executive how the branches wish them to proceed on the issue of availability winter moorings etc. Further communication will follow in relation to this issue.  A number of boats have been moved from Dromod/Drumsna. Waterways Ireland are building up a pattern of boat movements from harbour to harbour and will target boats that are abusing rules.  **NavWatch** – presentation made on development of click box type application to report navigational problems on Canal. It is hoped that this reporting system will be rolled out to other navigations at some future date. | |
|  | **BRANCH MEETING**  A Branch Meeting was held on April 6th with an attendance of 25members.  The following items were covered at the meeting   * **Correspondence** from a member requested that the issue of shore access to Derrycarne be considered by WI. Following an approach to WI the response received indicated that this would not be possible at the property is owned by Coilite. The Branch Executive has committed to following up on this issue again with WI at the future WI/IWAI Regional Meeting. * The **Hon Treasurer for the Shannon Boat Rally** (SBR) will be stepping down in the next couple of years. The SBR Committee is looking to appointment a replacement in the near team to ensure continuity. Should any member wish to put their name forward please contact the Branch Secretary at [**iwaicarrick@gmail.com**](mailto:iwaicarrick@gmail.com) as soon as possible. * **Carrick CCTV update** Project will commence in coming weeks. Confirmation will be sought on the location of the cameras and members will be advised accordingly. * **Carrick Care Days** - Award. See details above. * **Constitution** Members were advised that following call out to member for comments on changes to the Constitution, in order to comply with Company Law and Charity Status Regulation, a number of comments were received from a small number of people mostly around legal and organisational changes. The new draft constitution will not be available for the AGM but National Council proposes to bring the document to an EGM at a future date later this year. * **Shannon Erne 25th Anniversary** Members were advised that on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the opening of Shannon Erne Canal that a number of events are to be held this season and IWAI would like to support some of these events. It is understood that the HBA plan to cruise the SE over the course of the next number of months. The aim is to increase the traffic on SE and therefore reduce the likelihood of closure of locks at non-peak periods. Members will be advised of any upcoming events. * **Dunrovin** Full Planning is now granted. Donations/funding will be sought from various bodies. Slow progress on RNLI side due to number of commitments but is progressing. A number of meetings are scheduled in the coming months. Leadership Funding Application has been accepted. * **Membership Survey See** separate entry. * **Kayaks** Branch approval was sought and granted to purchase 2 replacement Kayaks atcost of €300 – €400 each. Members are reminded that Branch kayaks are available for loan to members. Please contact[**iwaicarrick@gmail.com**](mailto:carrick@iwai.ie) should you wish to avail of this facility. | |
|  | **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**  **June CIC June 1st – 3rd** at the time of writing June CIC will travel to Drumshanbo to support the WI Official Launch of the Drumshanbo Blueway with a get together in Bush Hotel on Friday 31st May at 9p.m. Weekend will consist of Boardwalk, BBQ, Music and craic. We are waiting on confirmation from Waterways Ireland. More details to follow.  Our now annual informal **Solstice CIC** will take place this year on Saturday June 21st with an overnight anchor out in Erris Bay. If you have not experienced a night on the anchor please join us for this unique experience.  **Friday July 26th** will see the gathering at the Bush Hotel for the Annual Shannon Boat Rally. The rally is North Shannon this year and a pilgrim for many members!! This is a very popular family event and great fun. Please do join us.  We would remind all members that due to insurance purposes only members who have renewed their membership in 2019 can attend events. | |
|  | **MEMBERSHIP SURVEY**  A Membership Survey was carried out in April.  Response rate of 20% was quiet a good survey response rate.  On the whole the response validated the work of the committee and the number of events held. However only 18% indicated regular attendance at events and almost 50% never attended.  Question 6 asked if members wish to become involved in the committee. Response No 56% with only 10% responding yes is very disappointing.  Question 5 and 7 focused on the type of events that could happen at a future time. Feedback suggested events such as boat handling, boat maintenance/technical issues – informal, events for younger people, sailing, kayaking, interactions with other clubs etc., new members informal meet and greet and the formation of a young persons’ committee.  On the whole members were happy with communications (98%). A comment on the use of one email address for communications should be looked at. This a National Executive issue around information available from the membership page. Enquiries will be made to the Membership Secretary to see if this issue can be addressed.  Executive undertook to look at the increasing the number of notices online and proposes to update the Webpage to include things happening in the environs of Carrick, e.g. walking trails, activities for young people etc.  Increased visibility of the work of the committee will be address by uploading condensed minutes on the Website/Facebook and included in Spring and Autumn Newsletters.  A number of actions will be taken from the feedback. Developments will take time – this is not a short term project.  Full survey results are available on the Webpage and Facebook. | |
|  | **MEMBERSHIP**  We would like to welcome our 5 new branch members and remind you to hook up with us on Facebook and feel free to contact the branch secretary on 086 2154585 or [**iwaicarrick@gmail.com**](mailto:carrick@iwai.ie) if you have any question, queries or require support.  We would encourage all branch members who may not have already done so to renew their membership for 2019. In addition should any member be aware of lapsed members please do encourage them to re-join. Without our members we cannot continue the work we undertake each year. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us | |
|  | **Next Branch Meeting will take place on 14th September 2019 at 13.00 hrs. in the Bush Hotel** | |
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