



High water in Dromod
Photo: Conor Meegan

At the time of writing we have been quite lucky on having such a mild winter, pretty much normal winter temperatures and although the water levels have been up since Christmas, nothing as high as they were a few years ago, hopefully this will leave many branch members in good stead as we look forward to the many events planned for the coming year.

On behalf of the new Carrick-on-Shannon executive, I would sincerely like to thank everyone who has participated in the many branch events over the last year. The Carrick Cares Day in conjunction with Waterways Ireland has moved up a notch or two as did the October Rally.

The CPR/Marine Emergency Care courses continued this year and we now have a number of IWAI members trained in the use of defibrillators and general first aid practices. This we intend to expand, promote and support in the next year for the benefit of all IWAI members. Well done to all who participated to date.

AGM

The AGM in the Bush Hotel was exceptionally well attended with over 40 members present.

The outgoing officers were returned un-opposed and the committee has grown with the addition of two new members, Tony Byron and Theresa Egan both of whom are very welcome. We would like to record our thanks to both Patricia Darby and Nuala Morgan for their many years service to the branch. Joe Byrne was appointed as our new webmaster with the

task of revamping the branch website.

Following the AGM, a light hearted and extremely enlightening presentation was given by Pat and Olivia Murphy on their boating travels around the world.

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to remind all branch members that without you the members we would be nothing, and also that without being members of the association our branch can do nothing.

ALL members are reminded that to participate in branch events, CiCs, rallies etc... you must be a current member. Membership can easily be renewed on line using a credit card line at www.iwai.ie/online365/member_join.php. Any queries please contact membership@iwai.ie

CARRICK 400

The past year has seen Carrick-on-Shannon celebrate its 400th anniversary. The year long celebration was brought to a conclusion with the Christmas market in where else, but the Market Square. Carrick IWAI has been involved with many of the events but I suppose the highlight was our involvement in Nationwide and the Line Astern parade through the town during the Shannon Rally.

CANAL BYE LAWS

Carrick on Shannon Branch are committed to supporting the campaign led by the national association against the proposed Canal Bye Laws. Branch officials

have attended and contributed to the initial Naas branch meeting and have since assisted the association in their task. We would like to thank all branch members who have responded individually, or as part of the wider IWAI diaspora.

FIRST AID COURSE

We continue to promote and support the first aid courses being run by the branch. This is a very beneficial and practical course for all ages open to any IWAI members, To make a booking, please contact Sharon Garland first aid (see separate advertisement) sharongarlandfirstaid@gmail.com or phone 086 3625888.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17: St. Patrick's Day on the Water Parade, Meet at Butler's Marina, Time TBC

April 12: Branch Meeting, Bush Hotel, 12.00

May 30-June 2: Cruise in Company, Details TBC, Assemble Bush Hotel.

Further details can be found at www.carrick.iwai.ie and a full Calendar of Events for 2014 is enclosed with this issue of IWN

BRANCH WEBSITE

The branch website is being revamped as we speak, it will have a new look and feel. It will then be continuously updated, so if you have any photos stories or news items, they would be very welcome.

KEEPING UP TO DATE

Using text messaging and email, the branch members are continuously informed of upcoming events. If you wish to receive text messages please text your name and number to 086 2154585, or email iwaicarrick@gmail.com and also visit us on Facebook.

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