

CORRIB CARRY ON

FROM MICHAEL HYNES



Autumn CIC participants

AUTUMN CRUISE

The annual Autumn Cruise in Company took place as usual on the second weekend in September. Padraic Glynn was the Commodore. The rally started off on the evening of the 12th with a bistro style meal in the Crow's Nest in Cong following which participants retired to their boats in Lisloughrey Harbour. Saturday morning dawned bright and sunny and the weather forecast promised really good weather for the whole weekend. At 11 am, the Commodore briefed the participants on what he had arranged for the weekend. Following this he led the flotilla on a leisurely cruise along the Carrick shore in Mediterranean type conditions. The flotilla then entered the Cornamona river and went up as far as Corr Cam above which the river is not navigable for cruisers in low water. All tied to trees along the banks and spent a few hours swimming eating and drinking in the glorious sunshine. Some participants travelled up the river to Cornamona in RIBs and dinghies and enjoyed their ice creams in Lowry's.

In the afternoon the Commodore led the flotilla to Inchagoill harbour. During this we were joined by a number of other cruisers and the final count was eighteen cruisers plus an assortment of RIBs.

After the berthing master Niall O'Flaherty had everyone safely berthed, the Commodore invited

all to a Prosecco and canapé reception. The canapé variety was amazing and all wondered how Padraic managed to keep them cool in such a small craft given the heat on Saturday afternoon. During this time, Peadar Canavan fired up the barbecue and after the reception most people enjoyed the burgers and sausages.

A large bonfire glowed as darkness fell and the younger members participated in a sing-song that went in long into the night.

Sunday afternoon saw the flotilla disperse to their home ports with most returning to Lisloughrey. All in all a memorably rally greatly facilitated by the brilliant weather and the excellent organisation of the Commodore and his team. It will surely go down as one of the great Corrib rallies.

INCHAGOILL WORKS

It is quite exciting to see how well the maintenance work on Inchagoill is progressing. Two teams of eight are working on alternate weeks and to date, the amount of work carried out is phenomenal. Particularly encouraging is the high quality of the work and it is clear that the work teams have highly skilled dry stone wall builders in their midst. Old paths have been cleared and some of the old long overgrown paths have been opened up and the stone pier on the south east of the island has been rebuilt. A lot of ivy which

was strangling the trees along the paths has also been cleared. We are indebted to Inland Fisheries Ireland, Coillte and the National Parks and Wildlife service for undertaking the work. However the work will only continue until the limited funds available are exhausted. In order to complete the work additional funding is required.

CORRIB NAVIGATION TRUSTEES

Following the local elections last year the Corrib Branch lobbied unsuccessfully to have a member co-opted onto the Corrib Navigation Trustees. While anglers and rowing clubs are represented, the only group of people using the whole of Lough Corrib have failed to get representation for decades.

For the first time in my memory, the Trustees actually made the budget estimates available to the public prior to the budget

meeting. This is gratefully acknowledged and we sincerely hope the practice continues and that a new era of openness has dawned.

While there is a significant increase in the estimates much of the additional funds are allocated to work on the Eglinton canal and the Claddagh Basin (56% of works budget). While both of these are within the remit of the Corrib Navigation Trustees, neither the Eglinton Canal or the Claddagh Basin have been navigable from the Corrib since the installation of fixed bridges in 1954. Spending on the Eglinton Canal has gone from €14,650 in 2014 to €115,000 in 2015. While no details of proposed works are known to us, it is presumed that much of the additional funding will be used to restore the lock gates in Parkavara which are in a perilous state. Their collapse would cause major damage.



Parkavara gates in perilous condition

Photo: Colin Becker

Boat for Sale?



Advertise your boat in
Inland Waterways News
Full colour 1/8 page ads from €110

E-Mail: editor@iwai.ie