

Notes from Hi Ya Meeting 5th February 2025

The meeting was attended by 14 of our volunteers.

Social Event

There was a good turnout at last month's event, the venue and catering were a great success. The intention is to hold a similar event next year.

Waste Tank

The waste storage tank at the yard has been emptied; a local company is doing this cost-effectively on an 'as and when' basis. There is still a need to do occasional pump-outs at the marina as it includes a flush cycle which is not possible at the yard. If required, marina staff can assist with pump-outs for a small extra charge.

Boat Issues

- Throttle.
Ortomarine have the replacement throttle which is to be fitted before passenger trips start.
- Toilet.
The toilet mechanism is still prone to sticking open. Crew are reminded to regularly check for this possibility and ensure that passengers are suitably briefed.
- Water.
As the boat is closed down for the winter, Milton steriliser has been added to the water system for purification. Please do not drink from the boat's water supply until the system has been flushed and refilled.

Metal Storage Container

We have prices and contacts for replacing the metal containers. Materials stored in the containers are to be sorted through and a skip will be hired to dispose of unwanted items.

Training

Refresher training will take place before passenger trips start in earnest. Crew are encouraged to watch the videos available on the website which will be integral to the training process. We are continuing with the NCBA scheme.

Bookings

Flyers have been emailed to previous customers with details of our trips and cruises. This year we are introducing a 3 hour fish & chip cruise for private boat hirers, to complement the existing 2 hour cruise. This will allow fish & chip pickups at Ladywood and the marina, where mooring is easier. The public fish & chip trips with set dates are all 2 hour trips.

Residential and care homes are showing a lot of interest at this time of year as they are setting up their programme for the year and wish to provide as varied a set of activities as possible.

First Aid

The first aid qualification is valid for 3 years. In June it will be 3 years since the last round of first aid courses began so another set of courses will be arranged to allow crew to requalify.

Festivals

We have a slot booked for the gazebo on the Saturday and Sunday of the Easter festival. Short trips will start at 10.30am and finish at around 3.30pm, and there will be a tombola. We also intend to be at St. Richards and Saltfest (Sat/Sun). We have declined participation in the Greek festival to be held in May.

Environmental

CRT are experiencing a number of personnel changes with the departure of their CEO and chief ecologist. We are attempting to liaise with Nick Trow over our environmental concerns.

AOB

- Steve will have to cut down on crewing activities due to family commitments but will continue to organise festival manning.
- It appears that we have not received an invoice for blacking the boat last year. Allowance might have to be made in this year's budget figures.
- Reminder that membership subscriptions fall due on January 1st. It is intended to review the rationale for the various categories (member, patron, supporter etc).
- Dropbox renewal is in March. There is a vacancy for a paid-for full access user who can provide bookings/crewing cover when Jim and Lynda are away. Contact Lynda if you are interested.
- Repairs to the boat's paintwork and spring cleaning will take place when the weather improves.
- One section of Christmas bunting seems to have gone missing; to be located.
- Uniforms are in hand for newly qualified crew and spare sets in various sizes.