

Notes from Hi Ya Meeting 4th September 2024

The meeting was attended by 14 of our volunteers.

Andy opened the meeting by recognising additional contributions by various volunteers over recent weeks in preparation for Saltfest:

- Joe cleaned the windows and gullies
- Keith and John gave the cratch cover a deep clean
- David H has provided new professionally printed tickets for festival boat trips

Close-Down Procedure

There have been occasions where close-down has not been followed closely, evidenced by examples of rocker switches left on, heater not switched off and drive key not removed. We were reminded to pay careful attention that all relevant items on the close-down sheet (on the back of the trip log) are checked and actioned.

Control Panel

Ortomarine appear to have sorted out the control panel issues and it's now working correctly.

Mooring Ropes

The frayed front and rear mooring ropes were replaced in time for Saltfest.

Pump Out

Our in-house pump-out facility with the new pipework is working well, although flushing is not possible due to lack of water supply. For this reason we should still make regular use of the Marina's pump-out where feasible. Maintenance team will perform regular checks and in-house pump-outs as required.

Membership

Whilst all active and new volunteers are required to be members, there are still some legacy issues around supporters and long-term patrons to be reviewed.

Saltfest

A successful weekend although a lower turnout compared to last year. There was a sense that previous customers were not returning for more trips. Income for trips was £400 compared to £440 last year.

Duck Race: 590 tickets were sold compared to 830 last year. Thanks to Daniel and Oliver for handling the river work.

Total income for the three days was £1045 compared to £1349 last year, but still a good result compared to pre-covid years.

Santa Trips

Margaret, Lynda, Emma and Tracy met to develop a working plan for running Santa Trips over the weekend of 14th/15th December. Possibility of adding an enquiry form to the website. Payment must be made at least one week before the trip or the booking will be cancelled. Santa trips will be advertised from October 1st. Geoff Briscoe has volunteered to be Santa.

Carol Trips

Carol trips have been advertised to 30 care homes and special groups. Of the 20 trips available, roughly half have already been booked. There was some discussion over the need for a host for these trips. Emma and Daniel have volunteered to organise the carol music play list and song sheets.

Crewing

August was a difficult month for crewing mainly due to holidays. September is looking good up to around the 17th with some vacant slots towards the end of the month.

Training

Steve Ilsley and Charlotte Tolley have passed their CCBM. Congratulations to both.

Environment

The reed cutters have resumed operations and are on the water today, both boats now working. CRT have been emailed urging them to prioritise reed cutting in our area.

A work day at the Pamela May Reserve is to be organised. Risk assessments have been done.

AOB

- Dropbox is still in use for the booking sheet. Some access problems have been resolved but Lynda is asking for assistance to investigate further.
- It was noted that there is no signage at bridge 17 during festivals, although good directions are given at the gazebo when buying tickets. Suggestion to have a 'Pamela May Boarding' sign made for the next festival. Confirmation that boarding is not to take place at the mooring opposite Waitrose.
- Sarah can still be contacted for boat provisions but should be given plenty of notice. She will continue to order fish and chips until the end of September. Andy has responsibility for tea-towel washing.
- Private hire fish and chips will only be ordered if paid for a week before the trip date.