

IWAI News Release 13



Date of Issue 3 July 2014

10,000 postcards sent by members of the Public to Political Representatives to support IWAI call for conciliation and agreement on Canal Bye-laws

Carmel Meegan, President of the the Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI), has this week praised the efforts and interest of the people who have signed 10,000 postcards for sending to Politicians all around the Inland Waterways.

Political representatives have been receiving these postcards from members of the Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI) and members of local communities, supporting the IWAI call to Minister Deenihan TD not to impose an outcome without conciliation or agreement.

IWAI launched the 10,000 postcard campaign in May to allow members of the waterways communities along the Grand and Royal Canal and Barrow Navigation to call on political representatives to support the position, as presented by IWAI.

Members of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht meet IWAI on Canal Bye-laws in March this year, one of the suggestions was that an outcome be reached through conciliation or agreement and not be imposed on users and communities. IWAI echo this recommendation.

As supported by over 2,300 submissions to Waterways Ireland from rural and urban areas and internationally including bodies such as the Dutch Barge Association and Inland Waterways International, the proposed Waterways Ireland Canal bye-laws do not put user requirements, tourism development and local communities at the centre of the regulations.

It is understood that the bye-laws have been forwarded to Minister Deenihan for his consideration.

IWAI request the Minister not to ignore the significant concerns evident from the 2,300 submissions and 10,000 postcards and not to impose an outcome without conciliation or agreement.

www.iwai.ie. <https://www.facebook.com/IWAICanals>.

Who to contact for further information

Gregory Whelan, IWAI,
Mobile +353-87-7996356
e: gregorypwhelan@gmail.com

Alan Kelly, IWAI,
Mobile: +353-86-8326275

John Dolan, IWAI,
Mobile: +353-87-9021039



Save Our Canals

Give us proper
Bye-laws.



www.iwai.ie

Dear Public Representative

As supported by over 2,300 submissions,
the proposed Waterways Ireland Canal
bye-laws do not put user requirements,
tourism development and local communities
at the centre of the regulations.

Please support the Iwai call to Minister
Deenihan TD. not to impose an outcome
without conciliation or agreement.

Signed:

Please place
stamp here

TO

LEINSTER HOUSE,
KILDARE STREET,
DUBLIN 2,
IRELAND



www.iwai.ie

Notes to Editor – the IWAI

The Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI) is a voluntary body representing over two thousand enthusiasts, with 22 branches across the island of Ireland.

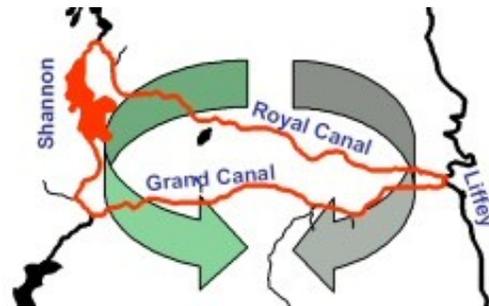
The Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI) is an energetic, fun, voluntary organisation with members from all corners of the Island of Ireland, all sharing a keen and passionate enthusiasm for the waterways of Ireland.

The IWAI advocates the navigation, use, maintenance, protection, restoration and improvement of the inland waterways of Ireland. It was formed in 1954 to promote the development, use and maintenance of Ireland's navigable rivers and canals.

When the Shannon was almost totally undeveloped for pleasure boating, the IWAI campaigned against the building of low bridges, thus ensuring the development of the river as a national asset. In the 1960s IWAI successfully fought plans to close the Circular Line of the Grand Canal in Dublin. Later the Association campaigned for the re-opening of what is now the Shannon - Erne Waterway (formerly the Ballinamore & Ballyconnell Canal) and the Naas Line of the Grand Canal.

IWAI played its part in the restoration campaign for the re-opening of the Royal Canal between Dublin and the Shannon in recent years. IWAI assistance to the campaign to re-open the Ulster Canal has also borne fruit with the announcement that work is to begin on re-opening the section from the Erne to Clones. Currently, IWAI members are active in restoration projects on the Boyne, Newry and Lagan Canals.

IWAI Branches hold approximately 200 events each year across inland navigations with the wider communities in many locations. These events include Boat Rallies, Harbour Festivals, Walks, Social Gatherings, Heritage Activities; Family activities and Youth focused events.



Green and Silver Route - Dublin.iwai.ie

National Website Details www.iwai.ie