

# Press Release - Quay to unlock old memories - Cheekpoint hosts Heritage Boats - English/Gaeilge

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## QUAY TO UNLOCK OLD MEMORIES

Cheekpoint hosts the Heritage Boats

The magnificent Tall Ships are not the only rare boats visiting Waterford next week. Coming to salute their past partners in maritime commerce is the fleet of the Heritage Boat Association. Amongst their number are Grand Canal Company barges 68M and 72M. These veteran boats, in their commercial working life, carried cargos from all over the country along the rivers and canals, to the port of Waterford. From there they were transhipped to the far corners of the world by boats similar to the current Tall Ships and their successors.

Cheekpoint was an important milestone on the barges journey, for it was here that the barges turned onto the Suir for the final leg upriver to the ports of Waterford and Carrick. It was also here that the local Eel Fishermen would often cadge a tow from an upriver barge saving them a long and difficult row in their traditional Prongs. In turn the barge men might enjoy a bit of company, a chat over a brew of the "kittle"™ on the Bolinder and perhaps a few fresh fish for the supper. And so a fine co-operative grew up between the bargemen and the fishermen that led to many lasting friendships. It is fitting therefore that Cheekpoint once again acts as host to these unique boats, for they enjoy a shared heritage that deserves to be celebrated by both their crews and the local communities.

This year's™ journey commenced on a frosty morning in March when 68M headed north on the River Shannon and turned onto the Grand Canal north of Banagher. At the same time 72M quietly slipped her moorings in Naas and led the now growing fleet south onto the River Barrow at Athy. At towns and villages along the waterway, communities celebrated the arrival of the Heritage Boats and the revival of the Barrow Navigation, thanks to the excellent work by the engineers and staff of Waterways Ireland. 2011 is a significant year, marking the 220th anniversary of the opening of the Navigation. Five counties are celebrating with a series of events and festivals taking place all year to mark the occasion.

From the June 27th until the July 3rd, the Heritage Boats will be based at Cheekpoint Quay and a wide range of activities are planned with the local community. This visit will highlight the work of the Friends of Cheekpoint Quay to restore the harbour as the focal point of the village.

The Reading Room in the village will be the venue for a River and Maritime and a Heritage Boat Association Exhibition. There will be guided walks in Cheekpoint and Faithlegg Woods, a Village Fete on the Green, the launch of the Newfoundland Dory, a Flotilla of Boats from Cheekpoint to Waterford, a School Art Happening and other events.

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## FÅ“GRA PREASSA

Meitheamh 21iÅ° 2011

CÅ%o CHUN SEAN CUIMHNE A SCAOILEADH

FÅ;jiltÅ-onn Cheekpoint na BÅ;jid Oidhreacht

NÅ- hiad na BÅ;jid Arda iontacha na t-aon bÅ;jid neamhchoitianta atÅ;j ag tabhair cuairt ar Port LÅ;jirge. Beidh cabhlach an Cumann BÅ;jid Oidhreacht ag teacht chun onÅ³ir a thabhairt do a sean phÅ;jirtÅ- i trÅ;jdÅ;jil muirÅ-. Ina measc tÅ;j bÅ;jirsÅ- an Grand Canal Company 68M agus 72M. D'iompair na sean bhÅ;jid seo, ina saol oibre, lasta Å³ gach pÅ;jirt den tÅ-r ar na abhainn agus canÅ;jlacha go dtÅ- cuain Port LÅ;jirge. Å“ sin bhÅ-odar iompartha go dtÅ- cÅ°inne fada an domhain ar bÅ;jid mar na BÅ;jid Arda.

BhÅ- Cheekpoint mar marc tÅ;jbhachtach ar turas na bÅ;jirsÅ-, mar bhÅ- sÅ© anseo a chas na bÅ;jirsÅ- isteach ar an tSÅ°ir chun an pÅ;jirt deireanach den turas chuig cuain Carraig an tSÅ°ir agus Port LÅ;jirge a freastail. BhÅ- sÅ© anseo freisin a fhaigheadh lascaire Easann tarraingt ar tÅ©ad Å³ na bÅ;jirsÅ- go minic Å“ iomramh fada a sÅ;jbhÅ;jil dÅ³ibh. Ar son sin d'fhÅ©adfadh na fir bÅ;jid beagÅ;jn comhluadar a bheith acu, caint thar cupÅ;jn tae tarraingÅ-tear ar an Bolinder agus bhfÅ©idir cÅ°pla iasc don dinnÅ©ir. As sin d'Å©irigh comhoibritheach idir na fir bÅ;jid agus na iascaire a spreag go leor sÅ;jr cairdeas. TÅ;j sÅ© cÅ³ir mar sin go bhfuil Cheekpoint ag cur fÅ;jilte roimh na bÅ;jid seo arÅ-s mar go bhfuil oidhreacht coitianta eatarthu a thuilleann ceiliÅ°radh Å³na foireann agus an pobail Å;jitiÅ°il.

Thosaigh turas an bhliain seo ar maidin reoch in MÅ;jrta nuair a d'imigh 68M Å³ thuaidh ar an tSionainn agus chas sÅ- isteach ar an CanÅ;jil MhÅ³r lastuaidh de Beannchar na Sionna. Ag an am chÅ©anna d'fhÅ;jg 72M a feistiÅ° i An NÅ;jis ag stiÅ°radh an cabhlach, atÅ;j ag fÅ;jis anois, Å³ theas isteach ar An BhearÅ° ag Baile Å°tha Å°. CheiliÅ°r bailte agus srÅ;jdbhailte an uiscebealach teacht na BÅ;jid Oidhreacht agus athbheochan An BhearÅ°. Is bliain tÅ;jbhachtach Å- 2011, tÅ;j sÅ© mar fÅ©ilte 220 oscailtÅ an uiscebealach. TÅ;j cÅ°ig contae ag ceiliÅ°radh le srath imeachtaÅ- agus fÅ©ilte i rith na mbliana.

“ Meitheamh 27<sup>o</sup> go dt- 1<sup>o</sup>il 3<sup>o</sup> beidh na B<sup>id</sup> Oidhreacht ag C<sup>o</sup> Cheekpoint agus beidh imeachta<sup>o</sup>- <sup>o</sup>ags<sup>o</sup>il ar shi<sup>o</sup> <sup>o</sup>ineacht leis an pobail <sup>o</sup>il. D<sup>o</sup>anfaidh an turas seo aire a tharraingt ar obair Cairde C<sup>o</sup> Cheekpoint an a deisi<sup>o</sup> mar phointe chomhtheagmh<sup>o</sup>la an sr<sup>id</sup>bhaile.

Beidh The Reading Room san sr<sup>id</sup>bhaile mar su<sup>o</sup>omh do taispe<sup>o</sup>intais Abhainn agus Muir<sup>o</sup>- agus Cumann B<sup>id</sup> Oidhreacht. Beidh si<sup>o</sup>il treoraithe do Cheekpoint agus Faithlegg Woods, Feis Sr<sup>id</sup>bhaile ar an Faiche, scaoileadh don Newfoundland Dory, Cabhlach B<sup>id</sup> <sup>o</sup> Cheekpoint go dt- P<sup>o</sup>irt L<sup>o</sup>irge, Scoil Eala<sup>o</sup>-n agus imeachta<sup>o</sup>- eile. <sup>o</sup> CR<sup>o</sup>•OCH

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