

2015 HBA Ballycommon Cruise - Itinerary

01 May 2015

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2015 HBA Ballycommon Cruise

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The focus of this year's canal cruise is three fold:

1) To highlight the natural beauty and amenities within easy reach of the canals banks 2) To exhibit canal cruising at a leisurely pace, demonstrating destinations accessible for weekend cruising from the Shannon 3) To continue to support the Ballycommon Community's ongoing efforts to open their canal branch. Everyone's Welcome! Would you like to join us? For more details contact Gerard Bayly, baylyg@gmail.com or 085 8688797 Â Update: Details for Bank Holiday weekend

Â Sat -Â Boats depart Tullamore for Ballycommon, Kilbeggan Challenge and Curry Night at Ballycommon with Offaly IWAI (Note; Advanced booking required for Curry Night, please contact Gerard Bayly to ensure your name is in the pot!) Sun - Family Fun day and BBQ hosted by the Ballycommon/Kilbeggan Groups Mon - Boats depart for Tullamore, Boland's Lock House will be open to the public for a welcome cruising break.

Members' attention is also drawn to an event being held the following Friday (5th June) in Tullamore.Â IWAI Offaly and Kildare are hosting a fundraising event in memory of Mick Farrell.Â All are encouraged to attend and support this cause. Mick Farrell Fundraiser

Venue: Hugh Lynch's Pub, Kilbride Street, Tullamore.

Date: 9pm 'til late on Friday 5th JuneÂ Â Tickets are available from Gerard Bayly or John Dolan.Â Â

Â Weekend 1 (09 & 10 May) Saturday Boats assemble in Shannon Harbour for pre cruise gathering at McIntyres. Music provided by McIntyres The HBA, as an Association, has never had an event in its own right in Shannon Harbour so we aim to fill the harbour with heritage boats under the HBA banner. Sunday Boats travel to Belmont. The fleet will be split above and below the lock to aid water management and a timely move off the following weekend. The village of Belmont and the River Brosna are just a short stroll away. There will be more than enough time to admire the workmanship of the double lock and bridge and its operation as your fellow boaters are gracefully elevated through it. Weekend 2 (15 -17 May) Friday Some boats may pass through Belmont lock. Further exploration of Belmont village Saturday Boats cruise to Pollagh Nightly entertainment in the Pull Inn. Bring your instruments. Sunday Boats remain in Pollagh Bog walks & cycles and enjoyment of local amenities. (Full details TBC) Weekend 3 (22-24 May) Saturday Boats cruise to Rahan Details TBC Sunday Boats cruise to Tullamore Arrive in ample time to explore the towns shops or the Tullamore Dew Museum Weekend 4 (30 May - 1 June) Saturday Boats cruise to Ballycommon This leg has the more locks than any other, but you can stop for a coffee at the round house to take a break. Nightly entertainment by way of BBQ or Pig Roast (TBC) Sunday Boats Stay in Ballycommon Ballycommon Festival run by local groups includes watersports, zorbing and an evening feast. Not to be missed. Monday Boats return to Tullamore We are currently looking for ideas for the HBA Ballycommon Challenge to be run on Saturday evening or Monday morning. All ideas welcome.