

In this issue

1 Urban Coracle

2-3 Insh Coracle Club receives their fibreglass coracles
Carmarthen Coracles receive recognition by Town Mayor
Vintage Day at Highland Folk Museum
2019 events

Urban Coracle

John Weinstock

I made this coracle from some plumbing materials I found in a skip. Building the frame was really pretty easy. It is made from 'Floplast' PVCU overflow pipe – it's very easy to work – just heat it with a heat gun or hot water. I based the design on a willow coracle that I had.

Covering it in cling film was a bit fiddly. Once the cling film was on, I very gently heated the cling film with a heat gun to shrink it.

Initial water trials were relatively successful. However the cling film started to unstick from itself! Cling film does not stick to itself the way it used to!!

Mark two involved wrapping the cling film right round the boat and then cutting a hole in. This happily resulted in a decked coracle. This was better but it was still very fragile.

I would like to do one covered in industrial film (the sort they wrap pallets in) or shrink wrap.



Photos: John Weinstock

Insh Coracle Club receives their fibreglass coracles

Euan Raffel



The Insh Coracle Club was awarded with a grant of £500.00 at the end of last year, to purchase some fibreglass coracles to use in the many events they run at Highland Folk Museum each year. These were received by the club just before Christmas and along with other donations, they have been able to purchase one of each type available from Arrowcraft Engineering - an

Ironbridge, a Teifi and a Towry. We wish the Club the very best for the coming year's events at the Highland Folk Museum.

Carmarthen Coracles receive recognition by Town Mayor

Malcolm and Julie Rees were proud to receive "recognition for their outstanding services to Carmarthen Coracle and Netsmen's Association" from retiring Carmarthen town Mayor, Cllr Emlyn Schiavone at a recent ceremony in the Guildhall, Carmarthen.

Vintage Day at Highland Folk Museum

Raymond Green

Today (26th May 2019) was the real public baptism of our three new fibre glass coracles, but the day began with foreboding. It had rained heavily for 24 hours and the forecast was very poor. When we arrived the mill pond was higher than we had ever seen it and our 'jetty' was afloat. Everywhere was sodden and it just felt miserable.

Our first step was to build a tarpaulin bivouac between the birch trees and then wait for the rain to stop. Oh joy, it did – for a while! We had the coracles on the water for a quick paddle before the rain resumed or any visitors came and then we waited. By lunchtime we had seen just a handful of people but then the weather cheered up and so did we.

Eventually, in a much more pleasant afternoon, we had 97 people on the water, only two less than during the whole day last year. The new coracles were wonderful and together with two of our own we had loads of space for fun. The pond area was almost double that on Vintage Day last year which was very hot and very dry. We are so grateful to the Society and Dave Purvis for these new coracles and hope the rest of the season goes as well, with, hopefully, better weather.



Photo: Insh Coracle Club

www.coraclesociety.org.uk

2019 events calendar

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Here is a summary of events taking place in 2019. Details are correct at time of printing - please check with the organiser or the Society secretary before travelling.

If you know of any coracle-related events not listed, or are organising one yourself, please get in touch so we can spread the word - visit coraclesociety.org.uk/contribute or contact the Secretary. If you do not have internet access and would like more information about these events please contact the Secretary

Welshpool Coracle Regatta - Saturday 22nd June

Welshpool regatta returns for its fourth year. Part of Welshpool Transport Festival. Welshpool, Powys. Contact Welshpool Town Council - 01938 553142 or email town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk

Scottish Traditional Boat Festival - Saturday 22nd - Sunday 23rd June

26th year for this maritime festival bringing together boats, music, crafts, food and drink and people from around the globe. Have a go coracle sessions and coracle regatta. Portsoy, Aberdeenshire. Contact Scottish Traditional Boat Festival - 01261 842951 (voicemail service) or email contact@stbfportsoy.org

Carmarthen River Festival - Saturday 13th July

Annual river festival with coracle and raft races. Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire. Contact Julie Rees - 07974 772393 or email Carmarthen River Festival - carmarthenriverfestival@gmail.com

Deer Shed Festival - Friday 26th - Sunday 28th July

Family friendly festival featuring coraclemaking demonstrations. Topcliffe, North Yorkshire. Contact Deer Shed Festival - telephone the Secretary or email info@deershedfestival.com

Bures coracle regatta - Saturday 3rd August

Bures, Suffolk. Contact River Stour Trust - 01787 313199 or email coracles@riverstourtrust.org

Cilgerran Festival Week and coracle regatta - 16th to 25th August

Annual festival week with family friendly events. Coracle regatta takes place on 24th August from 2pm (tbc). Cilgerran, Carmarthenshire. Contact Mark Dellar - 07964 361665 or email m_dellar@yahoo.co.uk

Ironbridge Coracle Regatta - Monday 26th August

Annual regatta at the rowing club. Ironbridge, Shropshire. Contact Ironbridge Coracle Trust - 01952 275606 or email judyawalker@blueyonder.co.uk

Date for the 2019 AGM and regatta to be confirmed - we will communicate this in the usual way once this has been organised

The Coracle Society Officers 2018/19

President	Peter Faulkner
Vice Presidents	Rod Bowen John Davies Martin Fowler Terry Kenny
Honorary Chairperson	Mark Dellar
Honorary Vice Chairperson	Malcolm Rees
Secretary	Dylan Jones
Treasurer	Euan Raffel
Committee	Gerwyn Lewis June Lewis Darren Male Jude Pilgrim Dave Purvis Julie Rees
Teifi netsmen's representative	Mark Dellar
Tywi netsmen's representative	Malcolm Rees
Ironbridge representative	Terry Kenny

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