



ON BOARD



SUMMER 2025



WARRENPOINT PORT

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A WORD FROM THE CEO



Welcome to the Summer 2025 Ezine

There's something about summer at Warrenpoint Harbour that sparks momentum — longer days, brighter skies, and a renewed sense of possibility. As we reach the midpoint of 2025, we're not slowing down — we're building up speed.

This season finds us focused on transformation, growth, and connection. From expanding our trade networks to deepening our community engagement, the past few months have been a time of dynamic progress. We're seeing the impact of our strategic investments, not just in infrastructure and technology, but in people — through apprenticeships, upskilling, and collaboration with local partners.

Warrenpoint is evolving greener, smarter, and more resilient. Our commitment to environmental responsibility is moving from planning into action, with new sustainability pilots underway and greener logistics gaining traction. At the same time, we're embracing the digital future — streamlining processes and enhancing the customer experience through smarter systems.

But it's not all about what's next. Summer also offers a moment to reconnect with our purpose. Every ship, every partnership, every initiative reflects our role as a harbour that serves more than just trade — one that strengthens the region economically, socially, and environmentally.

Thank you to all our colleagues, stakeholders, and friends for being part of the journey. Enjoy the read, enjoy the season — and stay tuned. The second half of 2025 promises even more.

David Holmes CEO



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Business Update Summer 2025

To the end of July 527 cargo-vessels have visited WHA processing over 2million tonnes during that time. With WHA's real focus on customer service they have enjoyed a turnaround time on average 14% better than expected by the respective Shipping Agents. Thanks to the whole WHA Team for delivering these important results and supporting our customers' supply chains.

The new BREXIT SPS site has been completed and officially opened for business. We are very pleased that our calls for a grass roof were met and that the building has been constructed to BREEM standards – recognized as the most environmentally friendly method of construction.

The Narrow Water Bridge continues to power ahead also and we enclose some snaps of its progress at the end of this ezine.

We have successfully increased employee numbers and continue to help lead the campaign for a recognized Stevedoring Apprenticeship. Potentially operational by late 2026, this new training opportunity will be open to existing employees as well as new starts. Exciting development.

WHA's community forum has continued and been genuinely insightful with progress made in many areas particularly our school links. Thank you again to all the members and attendees who have enabled that to happen.





Launch Of Cruise Season 2025



Warrenpoint Harbour is set to host four flagship cruise liners this summer bringing more than 1,500 passengers to the shores of south Down. The inaugural visit of the French liner **Le Boreal** took place on 20th May and will be followed by visits from **Island Sky** & **Le Bellot** in August and the return of **Le Bellot** in September. The Port's schedule marks the first cruise ships to dock in Warrenpoint since 2023

(L to R) Lisa Smith Account Manager Excursion Ireland, President WBR Chamber of Commerce Colleen Tinnelly, Chairperson Newry, Mourne and Down Council, Councillor Pete Byrne, Roslyn Young Executive Assistant Warrenpoint Harbour and Tracey Mooney Project Development and Trade Agent. NMDDC

In advance of the Cruise Liner visits getting underway, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority is working collaboratively with Excursions Ireland, the Newry, Mourne and Down Council and the Warrenpoint Burren and Rostrevor Chamber of Commerce to prepare and help create opportunities for local businesses to benefit from the increased footfall to the town.

David Holmes, Chief Executive of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, said: **“We look forward to welcoming four cruise calls this year which presents an exciting opportunity to showcase Warrenpoint as a memorable destination for cruise ships and maritime tourism creating opportunities for local businesses. “**

Each cruise call is facilitated by long-time Port tenants Armagh Logistics, Hamilton Shipping and GAC Services.





TEAM ACTIVITIES



Belfast Marathon Relay for Hospice

Members of our fantastic Port team took part in the Belfast City Marathon relay race raising vital funds for Evora Hospice Care (New name for Southern Area Hospice Services) in May 2025.



International Woman's Day

Female Warrenpoint Port employees, family members and Port stakeholders were privileged to attend International Women's Day on 7th March in Killeavy Castle Estate. The ladies were delighted to hear from the Keynote speakers Sósanna Ní Dhubháin, Composite Lead Engineer at Aston Martin Aramco Formula one team. Pictured are (Back L to R) Ashlene Patterson (WHA), Naoise Grant, Roslyn Young (WHA), Judith Barry (Barry Haulage), Jessica Mc Dowell (WHA) (Front L to R) Emma Holmes (WHA) Aislin Gebaska (WHA) & Nicola Mc Elroy.



WBR Chamber Golf Charity Day

WHA staff proudly took part in the WBR Chamber of Commerce Charity Golf Day held in June 2025, hosted at the picturesque Warrenpoint Golf Club. Representing the organisation were (L to R) Eoin O'Mahony, Kieran Grant, and David Holmes, who gave a stellar performance to secure second place overall in the competition.



SRC Big Apprenticeship Awareness Day

In February this year, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority proudly participated in the Southern Regional College's Big Apprenticeship Awareness Day. Representing the Authority were E.O. Mahoney and A. Gebaska, joined by past apprentice and now full-time staff member, J. Campbell, alongside current apprentice, J. McDowell. Their involvement highlighted WHA's commitment to nurturing local talent and showcasing the real-world impact of apprenticeships in the maritime and logistics sector.



THROUGH THE PORTHOLE



Sunset Cruise Stakeholder Evening

WHA was pleased to host a private sunset cruise on Carlingford Lough in May 2025 for its key stakeholders and Port staff. The event brought together colleagues and partners in a relaxed setting to celebrate progress and collaboration.

Pictured left to right: K Grant (WHA), J Chambers (WHA Board Member) with husband James, (Left) and D. Holmes (WHA).



St Mark's High School visit Warrenpoint Harbour Authority

Pupils from St Mark's High School in Warrenpoint enjoyed an educational visit to Warrenpoint Harbour Authority in May this year. They learned about Port operations, gaining insights into key roles in engineering, logistics and Port control. Pictured (L to R) Roslyn Young (WHA) with St Mark's pupils.



Minister Liz Kimmins Visits Warrenpoint Harbour Authority

In April 2025, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority (WHA) was honoured to welcome Minister Liz Kimmins to the Port for an official visit. The Minister was greeted by WHA's Chairman, Leadership team and Board members, who shared updates on strategic developments and the critical role the Harbour plays in the regional economy. Pictured (L to R) R. Johnston, (Board Member). K. Grant, (Finance Director WHA), J. Jennings (Board Member), Dr. W.G. O'Hare, (Chairman of the Board) & D Holmes, (Chief Executive Officer WHA) & F. Hanna (Board Member).



Relaunch of Sail ability 2025

Warrenpoint Harbour Authority was delighted to announce the relaunch of Carlingford Lough Sail ability alongside Foyleside Sail ability and the Loughs Agency in June of this year. Sailing commenced on 14th June, with sessions scheduled twice monthly. It offers a great opportunity for children of all disabilities to experience sailing. Pictured are (L to R) Kevin Wilson (Loughs Agency), Ken Curry (Foyle Sail ability), Annamarie Mathers (Co-Founder Carlingford Lough Sail ability), Roslyn Young (WHA) and David Holmes (WHA).



PORT ROUND UP



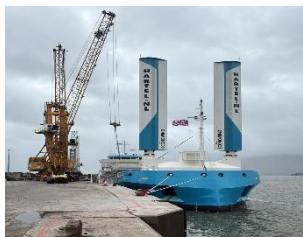
Seaview Nursery School Visit CLdN

The children of Seaview Nursery School, accompanied by their principal, teachers, and parents, enjoyed a memorable and educational visit aboard a CLdN vessel. This special trip was facilitated by the staff of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, and those of CLdN, who ensured a warm welcome and a safe experience for all. During the visit, the group had the exciting opportunity to meet the captain and explore various parts of the vessel, gaining first-hand insight into life and work at sea. The day was filled with curiosity, laughter, and lasting impressions for the young explorers and their families. Pictured are M Smith (WHA), D Mc Grath & D Devlin (CLdN) & children and staff from Seaview Nursery.



Warrenpoint Men's Shed Revamp Town Dock Planters

In June of this year, WHA commissioned Warrenpoint Men's Shed to revamp and replant the Town Dock plant boxes, coinciding with the "Tidy Towns" competition scheduled between July and September this year.



The Waalvliet Visits the Port

In May Warrenpoint Port welcomed the Dutch flagged vessel Waalvliet with a shipment of steel plates. A striking example of modern maritime engineering, the Waalvliet is powered by an advanced diesel-electric propulsion system, making it cleaner, quieter and more efficient than traditional vessels.



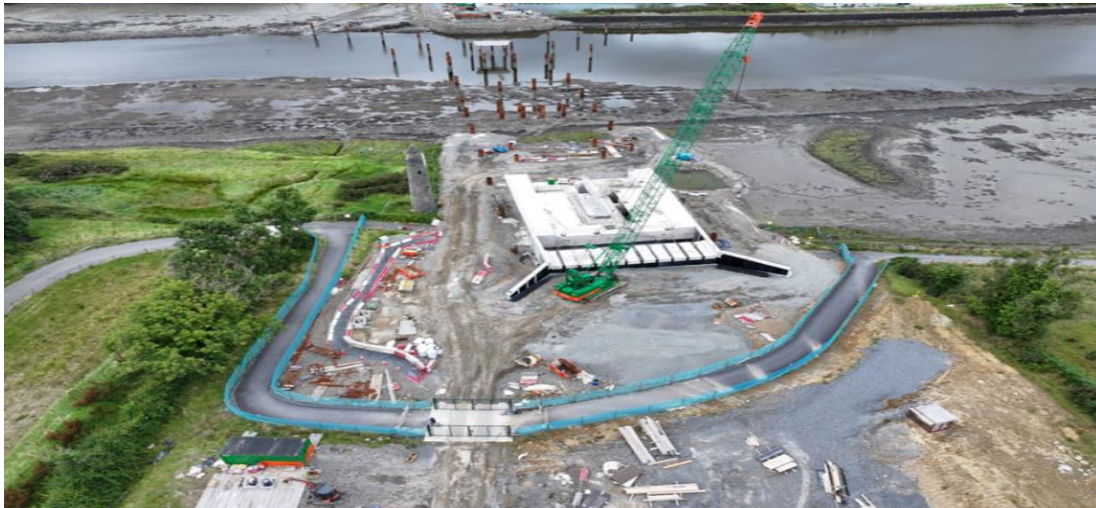
Warrenpoint Harbour Authority Community Fund Stakeholder & Recipient Reception Morning

In June, WHA hosted a special reception morning to celebrate the sponsors and recipients of the WHA Community Fund. The event provided an opportunity to recognise the generous contributions of our supporters and highlight the impact the Fund has had on local initiatives and community projects.



Narrow Water Bridge: A Landmark for Warrenpoint's Future

The construction of the Narrow Water Bridge is well underway, marking a historic milestone for cross-border connectivity and regional development. Since the official ground-breaking in June 2024, major progress has been achieved, with the foundation works completed ahead of schedule. The bridge, a 195m two-span cable-stayed crossing, will link the A2 Newry–Warrenpoint dual carriageway with the R173 at Omeath, facilitating seamless pedestrian, cycle, and vehicle access while maintaining navigational movements along the Newry River.



Construction progress at the Narrow Water Bridge site (Louth Side) (July 2025).

Transformative for Warrenpoint Harbour

For Warrenpoint Harbour, the project represents a once-in-a-generation investment. By connecting directly into the dual carriageway, the bridge will ease the flow of goods, services, and visitors, creating a more efficient transport network that enhances the port's role as a vital economic driver for the region. The improved accessibility will support trade expansion while reducing road congestion, strengthening Warrenpoint's reputation as a modern, connected hub.

Boosting Tourism and the Local Economy

The bridge will also act as a gateway to tourism and active travel opportunities around Carlingford Lough. Greenways, walking trails, and cycling routes are being planned in parallel, ensuring Warrenpoint and its surrounding communities become central to a growing network of outdoor and cultural attractions. This will bring increased visitor numbers to the town, boosting local businesses, hospitality, and the wider economy.

Cross-Border and Community Impact

Beyond infrastructure, the bridge is a symbol of meaningful collaboration under the Shared Island Initiative. It will deepen connections across the island, promoting cultural exchange and long-term economic development. Leaders including Taoiseach Micheál Martin have highlighted its importance as a tangible expression of partnership, shared vision, and future prosperity.

Looking Ahead

Steel deck sections, currently being fabricated in Belgium, are scheduled to arrive in 2026 and 2027, with completion expected by late 2027. Once open, the bridge will not only transform transport and tourism but will also place Warrenpoint at the centre of a landmark project with benefits spanning generations.



Warrenpoint Harbour Authority Welcomes Three New Board Members.

JOANNE JENNINGS



Joanne Jennings was appointed to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority in March 2025. As a proven leader with extensive experience across senior executive and non-executive roles, she brings a track record of driving transformation, unlocking potential, and delivering results. From steering City Centre regeneration to leading high-profile organisations. She has led teams, businesses, and initiatives including as CEO of Liverpool ONE and Belfast City Centre Management- delivering innovative solutions to complex challenges in economic development, urban management, and stakeholder engagement.

Joanne is the Director of Insight Consulting. She advises clients on leadership, place strategy, and change management—supporting cities, companies, and communities to thrive. She also brings governance expertise from multiple Board roles, ensuring strong oversight and strategic clarity.

JANE CHAMBERS



Jane Chambers was appointed to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority in April 2025. She is a Chartered Civil Engineer, a Chartered Environmentalist and a Chartered Water and Environmental Manager holding a master's degree in civil engineering. Jane has over 37 years' experience in appraisal, feasibility, design, project, contract and financial management of major infrastructure whilst employed by contracting, consulting practices and public bodies. From early 1990's, Jane has worked extensively in operational harbour shipping and port environments, delivering sea and estuarine defences, port facilities and seafront development.

Most recently for 9 years, Jane was a Belfast Harbour Commissioner, a Non-Executive Director of the Board and a member of four sub-committees, namely Port and Infrastructure; Remuneration, Police Advisory; and Chair of the Safety, Environmental and Security Committee.

ALISTAIR EAGLES



Alistair Eagles was appointed to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority in July 2025. He worked in the Irish Sea Ferry Industry from 1990 and joined Seatruck/CLdN in 1996. In September 2024 Alistair stepped down as Managing Director of CLdN Ro-Ro Ltd. Alistair is widely recognised for his exceptional interpersonal skills and commercial acumen with a strong Health & Safety focus. He has played a key role in shaping strategic direction, overseeing risk management, and ensuring commercial and operational effectiveness.