

Croft Carnival Procession Information Note v1.0

Background

The purpose of this note is to advise you, as a Croft Carnival float organiser, of the background to and detail of a number of changes to the procession for 2014.

Each and every year Croft Carnival provides a great day out - but we always strive to improve. Whilst minor, often unseen changes are made each year following a post-event review, we have recently identified a number of bigger issues relating to the procession that we are addressing following feedback from the 2013 event and in order to adhere to best practice.

Challenges

- A. Safety of people on floats - overloading
- B. Safety of people accompanying floats – overcrowded groups walking alongside
- C. Safety of other attendees and the public at large - one way system at Plough compromised by too many people on pavement, standing in road and stopping cars in the road to drop people off
- D. Enjoyment of all attendees - compromised by a few who refuse to follow reasonable requests, and also excessive use of water guns
- E. Keeping to schedule - maintaining a reasonable pace of movement which is comfortable for everyone, safe and doesn't cause delay to the event timing

Solutions

- 1. LOAD - safely, do not overload. Floats with young children should arrive at the start already loaded
- 2. CONTROL - those on your float before and during the procession, via adults on the float and/or adults walking (a safe proximity to) the float. But, please endeavour via your contact with those associated with your float to limit numbers walking next to the float in terms of managing their own safety in very close proximity to a moving vehicle. Those on board should keep a safe distance from the edge and take care when standing whilst the float is in motion
- 3. KEEP - up with float ahead – circa 10 metre / 30 ft gap
- 4. RESPECT - other carnival attendees' enjoyment - no water guns whatsoever
- 5. LISTEN - to those marshalling the event at all times - they are here to help you
- 6. DISEMBARK - safely only once on the field - and enjoy the day!
- 7. DEPART - floats are asked to depart from the field after 4pm, once pedestrian numbers around the gate area have reduced. However, if your driver needs to depart earlier, please firstly locate a member of the committee who will source assistance to get your float off the field safely

Conclusion

Safety is our number one priority, enjoyment number two, convenience number three. Decisions are taken in that order for the greater good and might not seem immediately to suit a particular individual. However, they are appropriate for the thousands that attend our beautiful event each year. So, the co-operation of your float and party is much appreciated and enables us to continue our tradition of providing a safe, cherished and much admired carnival experience year after year.

A version of this note will be given to each float driver on the day, prior to the procession starting.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this note or the procession in general, please contact lead marshal Peter McCartney on 07936 438291.

Jim Wilks, Chair, Croft Carnival