

# Raffle nets £14,000 for waterway groups

WRG's Van Appeal, the Shrewsbury & Newport Canals Trust and the Friends of Cromford Canal are among the waterway projects set to benefit from IWA's Restoration Raffle.

The raffle, which closed at the end of December, raised £14,000 – exceeding last year's figure by nearly £1,000. All the money raised will be shared among a range of deserving initiatives, all chosen by the ticket buyers themselves.

A total of 25 waterway projects around the UK will receive a proportion of the funds, dependent on the number of nominations received.

Coming out top was the WRG Van Appeal, which will receive £2,250 from the raffle. It is a welcome addition to the campaign's total fundraising effort, bringing it a step closer to the final target of £120,000 for four new vans.

With the second highest number of nominations, Shrewsbury & Newport Canals Trust was this year's top waterways trust beneficiary. It will receive £1,300 towards ongoing work.

Bernie Jones, chairman of the trust, said: "This money is a real boost to our fundraising efforts. Following an extension on the fundraising deadline from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the money raised by IWA's raffle will be going towards our Wappenshall Wharf appeal."

With the third highest number of nominations, the Friends of Cromford Canal group will receive £1,200. John Baylis from FOC said: "The money raised by IWA's raffle means we can go ahead and seek materials quotes for some much-needed repairs along the Cromford Canal. We are delighted to now be in a position to progress this work."

As well as being able to nominate their favourite waterway fundraising projects, ticket buyers stood a chance to benefit from the annual raffle themselves, with 13 prizes up for grabs, including:

First prize: A one-week boating holiday on a six-berth narrowboat with Wyvern Shipping, worth up to £1,500.

Second prize: A three-night or four-night boating holiday on a four-berth narrowboat with Andersen Boats, worth up to £700.

Third prize: A weekend boating holiday on a four-berth narrowboat with Canal Cruising Company, worth £590.

All winners have now been notified. Further details of the prizes, winners and a list of the waterway projects receiving a share of the funds can be found at: [www.waterways.org.uk/raffle](http://www.waterways.org.uk/raffle).

IWA would like to once again thank all organisations who donated prizes, without whom it would not be possible to run the raffle. And of course a very big thank you to everyone who bought tickets this year.



Raffle money will be going to good causes, including the Shrewsbury & Newport Canals Trust's Wappenshall Wharf appeal.