

ATHLONE AERIAL

NEWSLETTER ATHLONE BRANCH INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

<http://athlone.iwai.ie> | Secretary: Michael O'Donnell - 086 2621136 | Date: March 2011 | Page.1

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Branch Member,

The season is underway after a chilly winter, and no doubt, you're looking forward to an enjoyable summer. We have produced this handy events guide to allow you to plan in advance and try and attend one, more or all the great outings and great get-togethers. The emphasis this year is on social meetings, talks, destinations and what like, rather than just branch meetings per say. I hope you find the Guide has something for you and I especially welcome new members or members that haven't participated in branch activities to come to an event and get to know your fellow members. Be assured of a warm welcome.



A successful branch needs volunteers and these are always in short supply. If you'd like to help at any of these events please let us know. As these events come closer we will send out more specific details and also let you know more at branch meetings.

Dave McCabe

NEWS UPDATE

Lough Ree RNLI

The project to bring the RNLI to Lough Ree, proceeds apace. The RNLI have indicated that they will put the proposal before their board of trustees, before June. We are very hopeful of a positive outcome. More to follow on this...

Dunrovin

Outline Design for the new HQ of the Association have been completed and will be available for IWAI members viewing soon. This is an exciting project and will provide a home for the Association for many years to come and restore the picturesque setting and site to former glories.

EVENTS 2011

Sat 26 March – Cruise in Company

Depart Lakeside Sat Morning, Destination Athlone, optional lunch in Buccaneers. Commodore Austin Reed: 087 2587316 to register

Sun 27 March – Exhibition Borer Collection

A unique opportunity to see this extensive picture collection of the late Walter Borer. Walter was one of the Managing Editors with Ruth Delany and Paul Kidney on The Shell Guide to the River Shannon. In the third edition of the Shell Guide most of the illustrations were photographs taken by Walter Borer. Walter and his wife died in August 2004 and their extensive collection of photos was donated to Wineport Lodge. The event will be Hosted in and by the Wineport Lodge, €10 charge, finger food provided. Contact Brian Corcoran 087 815 8226 for info.

Sat 16 April – Branch Meeting LRYC 11am

Branch meeting followed by Talk on the history of Lough Ree, by Geroid O'Brien one of the three authors of Lough Ree and its Islands. An exclusive sneak preview of a new publication by Dr. Harman Murtagh on a new Boating Trail on Lough Ree and its Heritage and a rare insight into our unique heritage and the water related initiatives integrated into the Westmeath Heritage Plan by Bernadette Solon, Conservation Architect, Westmeath County Council.

Sat 4 June – Unveiling Ceremony Rally Commemoration Piece - Athlone

A cruise to Athlone to unveil the 50th Shannon Rally Commemorative Piece celebrating Athlone Branches significant part in Shannon Rallies down through the years in Athlone Docks, Light Refreshments, Music, etc
Time to be set, Contact Siobhan Bigley 086 8395861

Sat 16 July – Cruise in Company, Clondra

Cruise to Richmond Harbour to see the newly renovated basin and start of the Royal. A fantastic new destination. Commodore to be appointed.

Sat 27/28 Aug – Rindoon/St John Heritage Day

Cruise up to Lecarrow to support and gain insight into the unique local initiatives taking place during National Heritage Week on Sunday 28 Aug. Commodore to be appointed

Sat 10 Sept – Good Food Weekend, CIC

A unique opportunity to experience the wonderful cuisine on board the Shannon Princess, we'll cruise in our own boats to Portrunny and eat aboard the SP, sampling the best of local cooking. Commodore to be appointed

Sat 12 Nov – End of season Branch Meeting and AGM.

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GADGET CORNER by Dave McCabe Folding Wheelbarrow

Easy to store

Folds flat against a surface and hangs up when not in use. Can carry up to 100 lbs. of cargo! Yet it is easy to handle and lightweight (only 7 lbs.). Made of woven polypropylene fabric which is extremely durable. Resists tearing, rotting and never rusts.

Great For Use:

- In the summer
- loading gear from house to car to boat!!
- At the beach
- Picnics on the banks!!!
- Boat Docks from the boat back to the car to the house!!



One-pot Wonders *Recipe 5*

One-pot recipes are ideal for cooking on boats, Look out for a new one in every issue.

Shepards Pie

Ingredients

1 kg potatoes, 30g butter
2 tblsp milk, 1 tblsp oil
1 large onion, finely chopped
1 kg lamb mince, 1 carrot, finely chopped
2 tblsp plain flour, 1 cup vegetable stock
2 tblsp Worcestershire sauce, 1 cup frozen peas



Method

Peel the potatoes and cut into chunks. Cook in a large pan of boiling water for 15-20 minutes, or until tender. Drain the potato well and return to the pan over low heat, and stir to evaporate any excess water. Remove from the heat, add the butter and milk, and mash with a potato masher until smooth. Season with salt and cracked pepper. Preheat the oven to moderate 180C. Meanwhile cook the onion until soft and just beginning to colour. Add the mince, increase the heat and cook until browned. Add the carrot to the pan and cook for a few minutes. Sprinkle on the flour and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Slowly add the stock, stirring constantly. Add the Worcestershire sauce. Bring to the boil and cook for 2-3 minutes, or until the gravy thickens. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Stir in the peas and transfer the mixture to a 2L ovenproof dish. Spoon the mashed potato onto the meat mixture and spread out evenly. Use a fork to swirl the surface. Bake for 40-50 minutes, or until the potato is golden.

FOR MORE INFO...

Contact us by email: Athlone@IWAI.ie, or via the Secretary, 086- 262 1136, . A message by Text is preferred. Please be aware that all these contacts are volunteers and have day jobs, so be patient. Thanks for understanding.

We may add other events or modify this event guide as the situation demands, all on-water events are conditional on suitable weather and can be cancelled at the last minute. All participants or families must be current members of the IWAI for insurance purposes, unless we specifically mentioned the general public is allowed. Some events may have a small charge to defray expenses, (but no sneaky stuff).

