



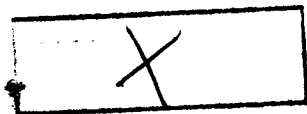
ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch, Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
All Correspondence to: Athlone Aerial, Seans Bar, Main St., Athlone.

JANUARY 1985

- (1) Subscription are now due please remit
- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| Family Membership | £8 |
| Single Membership | £7 |
- TO
- Hon Treasurer,
Mr. Sean Fitzsimons,
Seans Bar,
Main St.,
Athlone.
Co., Westmeath. Eire.

The red X in box below signifies that according to our records your subscription is now due.



- (2) The next branch meeting will be held on:
Fri. Jan. 4th 1985,
At 8.30 pm
In Seans Bar.

A G E N D A:

- Minutes
- Correspondence
- Projects
- Pollution
- Social Evening
- A.O.B.

CAN YOU SWIM

If you cant swim, now is the time to learn. Swimming Classes are held at all Swimming Pools during the winter months, so enquire at your local pool. Not alone will you have great fun doing the course but you will enjoy the confidence and pleasure of being able to swim, for the rest of your life. Everybody participating in waterborne sports should be able to swim, not alone for the pleasure, but for the confidence and peace of mind of ourselves and those around us.

Those who can swim already should think about improving, either through more practice or through a Life-Saving Course.

If you fell off a boat, fully clothed into cold water, would you be able to swim to safety? If you saw somebody falling into cold water, fully clothed and drowning, would you feel confident enough to go to their rescue? If you can answer "Yes" to both questions - well done, you're a great asset to any ships company.

If you can't answer "Yes" to both questions - think about what we're saying, take swimming lessons - you'll never regret it.

MRS DOYLES IMELDA PUD

I first met this souffle on a Shannon Bally many years ago. Imelda was a member of an all girl crew, and she made it for a member of one of the all male crews. We were moored next door and I was very impressed indeed, especially when I discovered that it had not required a beater.

- 1 tin mandarine oranges
- 1 orange jelly
- 1 block vanilla ice cream.

Put the jelly and juice in a pan plus enough water to make ½ pint and melt jelly. Put fruit into a dish and add melted jelly. Let the ice cream become fairly soft and add to fruit and jelly. Mix all together until smooth and leave to set in a cool place. Serve with cream.

DUBLIN BRANCH SUPPER DANCE

Dublin Branch Annual Supper Dance will be held at Trinity Boat Club on Friday 25th January 1985. Tickets at £7.50 each are available from Padraic O Brolchain, Telephone 01 806538.

Those who have attended before will be aware of the lavish spread laid on by the Ladies Committee, those who have'nt have a treat in store, - its better value than a Dick Burke Handshake.

THANKS

We would like to extend our thanks to those who contributed script and photographs for the Rally Booklet. Contributions are still welcome but we are very close to deadline so hurry if you want to be included.

DID YA REMEMBER JEM!

Now is the time of year when we remind you to "winterise" your boat. You may already have done so but just to check again.

DID YOU : Drain all the water from the engine
" " " " " " geyser
" " " " " " toilet
" " " " " " Water tank
" " " " " " Bilge

Check that drain holes are clear & open.

Remove the gas cylinder

Remove the battery

Remove bedding, cushions, curtains etc.

Remove perishable goods, food etc.

Clean out the fridge & food lockers

Arrange ventilation throughout

Arrange adequate props under boat/trailer.

Arrange anti-chafe protection for mooring lines if wintering afloat.

Check the terms of your insurance policy.

A good fitted cover saves woodwork etc from the ravages of wind, rain and frost, but care should be taken to ensure ventilation under the cover.

Now is the time to arrange repairs, engine overhauls etc, to avoid unnecessary delays at the start of next season.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION:

Now that the time for new year resolutions are here again maybe its time to think about First Aid. Most accidents, be they small or large, serious or minor happen on boats when far away from a doctor or medical help and very few of us have a doctor aboard or somebody who has any knowledge of First Aid, so maybe its time to add another book to your book case or better still join a course run by the Red Cross, St., Johns Ambulance or Knights of Malta or even one of the courses in schools which run night classes.

ARDNACRUSHA LOCK

Closed to navigation from 5th November to 26th January 1985.

17th LOCK

The 17th Lock of Grand Canal closed until further notice for maintenance.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



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February 1985

Good news for Carrick-on-Shannon.

We learn that substantial development of riverside amenity at Carrick is in the pipeline. Leitrim as a border county has availed of E.E.C., and central fund grant allocation.

The development, whilst specific detail is not yet available, will be two fold,

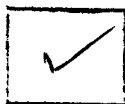
- i) The enlargement and completion of the proposed I.W.A.I. Carrick-on-Shannon Marina facility;
- ii) The expansion of Carrick-on-Shannon's Rowing Club facilities and to include other water sports activities.

We will bring further detail when available but take this opportunity to congratulate Leitrim County Council and our Carrick-on-Shannon colleagues on their initiative, well done.

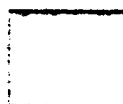
Next Branch Meeting is on Friday 1st February in Seans Bar at 8.30 pm

AGENDA: Minutes
Correspondance
Portrunny Project
Social Evening
Aerial Costing
A.O.B.

OUR RECORDS OF 17th JANUARY 1985 SHOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1985 AS BEING



PAID



DUE

We apologise on behalf of our treasurer who once again has confused all of us and you with regard to current membership.

If on your January aerial you received a red X despite being paid up for 1985 we again apologise.

If on receipt of this aerial you have again a red X which you should not have we again apologise

We are attempting to correct our membership listing and the X situation is as far as we can establish now correct. Please advise us if otherwise.

Subscriptions £8.00 . Family , £7.00 Single to Hon.Treasurer
c/o Seans Bar
Main Street,
Athlone.

Dates to Remember:

Dublin Branch Film Evening	- Royal St. George	8 p.m. Monday 18th Feb
National A.G.M. I.W.A.I.	- R.I.A.C. Club	Friday 1st March
Boat Show		28th Feb/3rd March
Athlone Branch Social Evening	Shamrock Lodge	Friday 15th March

Volunteers:

Athlone Branch members are invited to offer their services in "manning" I,W.A.I. stand during forthcoming Boat Show. Volunteers ring Paoraig O'Brolchain, 01 - 806538

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to the Hannin Family on the recent death of Berchs mother.

We sympathise with the relatives and friends of hthe late Nat Fishman a long time member and supporter of Athlone Branch.

Warning : Whilst going to press a thaw is forecast but for future references sub zero is no friend of the boatman and causes regular hull damage beware. .

Lough Ree Yacht Club:

Latest news has it some of the Lough Ree Fleet are taking to the ocean this summer, however at time of going to press dates have to be firmed up and definite decisions made. Rumoured among the possible starters are Michael Webb to Cornwall via Cape Clear Island. Percy Hewitt to Valencia via Carrigaholt, Cruising West , Harry Donegan , Pat O'Brien and P.Quigley along with one or two tothers

Congratulations to Margaret Delaney who has been elected as Captain of the Shannon One Design Class and Harry Donegan as Captain of the Cruisers. We wish goos sailing to both.

Ships Chandlery:

Good Buy : For sale 10 foot clinker built , centre board
Soow, complete with oars, mast, sail
Suitable for tender or childrens starter
Contact B.Hannin or P.Quigley.

If any readers have a garage full of junk like old fenders, rope or damaged boating equipment, somebody else may find a use for such items.
Next month we will run advertisements to sell your rubbish

For Sale:

Microplus 571 Fibreglass 6 Berth Cabib Cruiser
22 Ft Long full canopy, 35 H.P. Evinrude
outboard. Only 2 years old. Complete with
25ft. trailer. Moored in Tullamore ; £7,000 o.n.o.
Tel :)044 48900

Athlone Rubbish Dump:

100 gun salutes in the old days so depleted stocks of ships gunpowder that Naval Secretary Samuel Pepys worked out the table now used to conserve stocks.

Who knows what part Soa Sickness played in English history? Of the 4000 salvoes fired by the Grand fleet at Jutland in 1916 - 3800 missed.

Like pirates cockroaches can take over a vessel, contaminating food, creating an unpleasant smell and scaring people. Advice to cooks, carry Macaroni instead of Spaghetti. If cockroaches are in hiding it is easier to blow down the hole.

Rougee Yarn was so called as it originated in the Royal Navy who introduced coloured rope for identification and as a thief deterrent. The worlds largest rope was made in England for the North sea oil. Industry, it was 30 inches in circumference and had a breaking strain of 1200 tons.

1 Lough Ree Development:

At a Decomber meeting of the Midlands Regional Development Organisation the following resolution proposed by Councillor J.T.-Kirwan, Roscommon Co. Co and seconded by Councillor P.J. Coghill, Westmeath Co.,Co., was adopted;

- a) that integrated programme be prepared urgently for access to and developemnt of Lough Ree as in the case of the Sliavo Bloom Mountains, especially as extra funds may be available for roads.
- b) that special meeting be held to consider progress with Development of Lough Ree as compared to the Development of Lough Derg and also progress with Brady Shipman Martin Report to be addressed by such bodies as Bord Failte, Lakeland Tourism Ltd., O.P.W. the County Councils, Fishery Boards etc.,
- (c) That sub-committee of the board be formed to visit all access points on Lough- Ree and all access points on Lough Derg and to report back to the Board.
- d) that joint meeting of all public representatives in the electoral areas adjoining Lough Ree be held to consider access to and development of Lough Ree.

Councillor Kirwan, in support of his motion presented a comprehensive report of the extensive developments carried out on Lough Derg, with quays and jetties, slipways, major berthing, public lighting, telephones, parking, toilets, seating, grassed areas, landscaping, childrens playgrounds, swimming facilities, refuse bins, standard Lough Derg location maps, road access and signposting and lakeside drivers. He compared this with the marked absence of such development on Lough Ree and he listed many areas around Lough Ree where where such developments could and should be provided. He also made comparisons with access and development on Lough Corrib, Lough Mask, Blessington, Lough Erne, Lough Neagh and Strangford Lough.

"Is it not a pity that the Midlands which is farthest from the sea has the least access to the greatest stretch of water it has" said Councillor Kirwan in his address to the MRDO Board.

Let us hope that Councillor Kirwan will receive the full support of his colleagues on the Board of the Midland Regional Development Organisation, of the public representatives in the electoral areas adjoining Lough Ree, of Board Failte, of Lakelands Tourism Ltd., of the O.P.W., and of the many other Associated bodies including the full support of the members of the I.W.A.I. for the speedy implem-entation of this long overdue project.

DOYLE'S DELIGHTS Hedgehog Meat Balls

1½ lbs minced beef
 4 ozs long grain rice
 1 onion finely chopped
 1 can condensed tomato soup or pkt. tomato soup with
 recommended amount of water.
 ½ pt of water
 pepper and salt
 Parsley and mixed herbs, optional

Mix meat, rice, onion, pepper and salt, and herbs if used.
 Form into small balls, pressing well together. Approx 16 balls
 Heat soup and water in pressure cooker, when boiling drop meat balls
 into hot mixture.
 Put on lid and bring to pressure, cook for 15 mins approx., allow to
 cool slowly.

When you take off the lid you should find that the rice is sticking out
 of the meat balls like the spikes on a hedgehog!†

Pineapple Souffle

1 Pineapple jelly
 1 medium size time pineapple
 1 large tin condensed milk

Put jelly and juice in saucepan plus enough water to make one third of a
 pint, heat to melt jelly.
 Cut up threequarters of pineapple into small pieces, keeping the rest to
 decorate the top of the finished souffle.
 Beat the milk until it thickens, beat in the melted jelly and stir in the
 cut up pineapple. Pour into a large dish and allow to set. (approx 1 hr)
 Decorate the top with remaining pineapple, cherries and cream.

Chocolate Sauce

6 ozs brown sugar
 2 ozs cocoa
 ½ pt milk
 few drops vanilla essence

Put all ingredients into a saucepan and mix well.
 Cook over a low heat until smooth, bring to boil, boil for 2 mins stirring
 all the time.
 This sauce is delicious with steamed puddings or with ice-cream.
 It may be used hot or cold.

HARRY RICE CUP WINNERS

<u>1st Prize</u>	Aoife Hanly Rinn Dun Barrybeg, Athlone	Aged 11
<u>2nd Prize</u>	Ruairi Herraghty Hazelmere The Manse, Athlone	Aged 7
<u>3rd Prize</u>	Claire Deacy Ardnagreine Renmore, Galway	Aged 11

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Aoife, Ruairi and Claire on their fine achievement.
 We also thank all our other young writers for participating, well done.

Ed.



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I.

March 1985

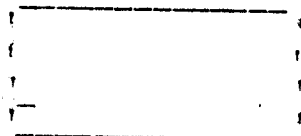
The Athlone Branch of the Inland Waterways takes this opportunity to thank you for your support. Through your membership we are enabled to pursue our Associations aims and benefit our community in our own little way.

Should your membership have lapsed we cordially invite you this month to forward your subscription to:-

Hon. Treasurer
C/O Sean's Bar
Main Street
Athlone

Single £7. Family £8

We regret that should this issue carry the red X no further mail will be possible without renewal



The next branch meeting will take place on

Friday 8th March at 8.30 in Sean's Bar.

Agenda

1. Reports of meetings with:-
 - a. Roscommon County Council
 - b. Midland Regional Tourism
2. Social Evening plans
3. 1985 Branch Programme
4. A.O.B.

Social not personal

Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye, a night to remember - Friday March 15th in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel at 8.30 p.m. Athlone Branch proudly present direct from the Coosan Studios, and made on location on Lough Ree "Rosie meets E.T." produced and directed by Rosemary B. de Furlong, with tea and sandwiches and a bar thrown in all for £1. Stephen Spielberg eat your heart out.

Car Treasure Hunt and Social

Saturday afternoon and evening, 20th April, Shannon Harbour Rally Committee in association with The Royal Canal Amenity Group, will run a car Treasure Hunt and social at a Royal Canal venue. For further details...

The "Canals Bill 1985"

Michael Webb reports

This is the bill that when enacted will transfer "the whole of the Canal undertaking" to the Commissioners of Public Works. The executive committee of the I.W.A.I. met in Dublin during last week and decided to ask for an immediate meeting with the Minister for Communications and to seek clarification on some aspects of the Bill that are causing worry!

The bill, which runs to seventeen pages, contains many detailed provisions, but the overall thrust of the bill is:-

1. Repeal all, or virtually all, existing legislation that appertains to canals, their management and functioning.
2. Hand over the canals to the O.P.W.
3. Give wide ranging powers to the O.P.W

Number 3 above is what causes the most worry. A few quotes from the bill will illustrate how well founded those worries are:

Section 2, sub-sect. 8.

"Nothing in this section should cause the commissioners to be regarded as a canal undertaker or a canal company for the purpose of this or any other enactment", question that comes to mind is, what should we regard the Commissioners as?

Section 7, - 1

"On and after the vesting day the Commissioners may make bye-laws in relation to -

- (a) The regulations of the conditions (including conditions as to safety) under which boats may be used on the canals.
- (b) The closing to navigation of any part of the canals.
- (c) The alteration of water levels of the canal
- (d) The charging and fixing of fees, tolls and charges in respect of the use by boats of the canals

This section would effectively do away with the current provisions whereby traffic must cease for at least three years prior to a closing order, other than when such an order is brought before the Dail is passed.

There are many other aspects to the bill but the idea of handing over the canals to the O.P.W with a carte blanche to write whatever bye-laws they wish (shades of registrations?) and to administer said bye-laws with as heavy or light a hand as the O.P.W. feel is appropriate, is asking a lot - particularly when one bears in mind the autocratic management over the past few years.

The provision and protection of water rights and feeders also seem to be in some doubt.

All in all a worrying situation - we may yet have to man the battlements - but lets hope sense and reason will prevail.

Portrunny Developement

Terry Leyden, T.D. and Councillor Jack Kirwan met members of Athlone Branch I.W.A.I. and gave their full support to the proposed developement for Portrunny. The I.W.A.I. proposal involves the building of a deep water jetty outside the existing jetty and to extend the breakwater to afford protection from S.E. winds. Also included in the proposal is a plan to culvert the existing jetty, thereby facilitating the "flushing" of the existing harbour.

The deep water jetty will have berths for at least ten cruisers and will be usable throughout the entire boating season.

Mr Leyden felt that with proper planning and a little effort Portrunny had the potential to be to Athlone and Roscommon what Salthill is to Galway and the West.

Councillor Kirwan agreed that the I.W.A.I. proposal complimented his recent submission to the Midland Regional Developement Organisation regarding developement on Lough Ree.

The I.W.A.I. are confident that the efforts of Councillors Leydon and Kirwan will be successful in securing the finance necessary for completion of the Portrunny developement.

Roscommon Co.Co.

Representatives from An Taisce and Athlone Branch I.W.A.I. met Roscommon County Council recently to discuss various aspects of planing, developement, concervation, pollution and communication between the County Council and An Taisce regarding such matters. Aspects of the Brady Shipman and Martin report relating to Lough Ree and Lough Key were discussed, together with proposals for developement at Hodson Bay, Lecarrow, Portrunny and Galey Bay, and conservation at St. Johns Wood. This initial meeting dealt only with the general attitudes of both parties on the various items under discussion, but the County Council have promised to meet smaller local groups on localised issues.

Ralley Book

Our sincere thanks to all who contributed articles, photos, etc. for the Silver Jubilee Rally Book. Plans are progressing satisfactorily and we expect to have the book on sale by early May. More details later.

Wildfowl Census

A recent wild fowl count organised by the National Association of Regional Game councils revealed a drastic reduction in the number of mallard and geese. There is, however, in the Athlone Area an increase in widgeon and teal.

Census	Mallard	Geese	Teal	widgeon
1983-84	2,000	650	700	700
1984-85	900	90	1,200	2,700

This situation gives rise to anxiety when one considers that mallard are the main species being hatched and reared through wild

mallards ability to breed and survive in the wild. The question of changing the shooting season from september to October would seem worthwhile when the flight of the bird would be stronger.

Identification rings should be returned with date and location information to;

Department of Forestry and Wild Life
22, Upper Merrion Street
Dublin, 2.

A Sword from Cu Chulainns time

Yes, a fanciful suggestion about a sword found by Derry McMahon, a member of Athlone Sub Aqua Club in May 1984, is not as far-fetched as it might seem. The iron sword was a chance find from the gravelly bed of the Shannon where it constricts from Lough Ree on the approach to Athlone, and is tentatively dated to the Pagan Celtic Iron Age in Ireland which can be taken as the first few centuries before and after the time of Christ. It is a very welcome addition to the twenty two swords broadly related to this type found in Ireland so far.

The sword measures 23 inches long and its effectiveness in the dexterous hand was as lethal as the heavier weapons that came into fashion with the Viking incursions towards the first millenium A.D. and subsequent Norman styles that needed a strong hand and wrist. Bronze Age techniques of fashioning weapons from casting bronze in stone and clay moulds were changing to adapt to the new process of iron working and the Athlone sword is a product of this new age.

Derry McMahon has deposited the Sword in the National Museum, where it will receive the necessary conservation treatment and also the all important continuity of custodianship so vital for its future safety and study. Go along and have a look next time you are near the National Museum in Dublin.

For Sale

Mercury 3.5 H.P. 1985. Long Shaft. 3 hours.
£300 O.N.O. Bridge Inn, Athlone. Phone 0902 - 2006.

Darragh 17. 3 years old. 9.8 Mercury . Frank Dwoncroft
Trailer. £1200 O.N.O. Phone 0902 - 2006.

Report from our Foreign Correspondent

"Where" I said, sitting beside the stranger on the quay side "Where did you ever see such peaceful still waters?" and where " I continued, heating to my subject "Where in the name of God did you ever, as your boat goes up between reedy banks where the heron stand, silent sentinels, feel such a sense of timelessness". "Did you ever" I said warming to my theme "Did you ever come out of Blackbrink on a summers morning around 6, without a ripple on the water save the odd leap of a fish and the mist still hovering on the surface with a red tip of sun starting to make its appearance and the Ree like mercurised cream, looking like a Japanese silk painting? Did you now".

I could see I'd got the strangers attention, for there was now a gleam in his eye and being a Scotsman and loath to show too much excitement he replied: and in his reply his words poured over me like a balm and I knew once again the river had yet another convert



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April 1985

1.

Long long ago the Athlone Branch fleet was known to saunter down to Carlow for Easter. How times have changed. This year for those of you with young blood or 70% proof may join our Lough Ree Cruise in Company.

To facilitate this madness the branch meeting will be held at the later date of: Friday, 12th April at 8.30 pm, Sean's Bar.

Agenda: Minutes
Matters arising
Correspondence
Development Reports
A.O.B.

Lifeboat Flag Day.

The Athlone Branch of the Irish Lifeboats are holding their Flag Day on Saturday, 6th April. Volunteers are urgently required, please try and help this worthy cause even if you only shake a box for half an hour. Boxes and Flags available in Sean's Bar from 10.30 a.m.

Night Out.

A most enjoyable night was had by all in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel on Friday 15th March, our thanks to the organising committee and a special thank you to Rosemary Furlong for her very interesting films of the early Shannon Rallies, the Carlow Rally '65 and Lough Ree frozen over in the winter of 1963.

Branch Chairman Sam Herraghty presented the Harry Rice Trophy to Aoife Hanley (age 12) for her essay 'Athlone to Mountshannon' which was the winning essay in the 1984 competition. Ruth Casey was presented with a log book for her prizewinning log in the Aerial Ships Log competition.

ATHLONE TO MOUNT SHANNON by Aoife Hanley.

Lough Ree was certainly looking its best that bright August morning. The distinctive shape of the scots-pine on Inismore, the bright yellow shores, the fresh green woodland and the comforting hum of motor-boats gave an air of excitement to that young day.

To me it was a voyage into the unknown, to others a 30 mile stretch of the river Shannon already known like the back of their hand.

I believe we defied the laws of gravity for once in history as we surveyed the luggage piled sky-high in the dinghy with satisfaction. Mammy assured us that everything was organised, but I had my doubts about that!

The Hispaniola (our Jag 25) our future home for two watery weeks was gaily bobbing on her anchorage.

You can imagine the confusion that followed after

We said good-bye to Athlone and the smokey dump which is now forgotten. My memories of the days that followed are full of the scolding of coots on a quiet evening at dusk, the lap of water and the unintelligible foreign languages of tourists locking in.

Travelling along the Shannon is pleasant and dreamy, not too energetic and never boring. Shannon air and food go very well together and our appetites were never satisfied. And so two pleasant days throbbed by.

Then out of the summer haze loomed Portumna bridge. Over dinner we decided to get the worrying job of raising the mast over with. That evening we raised the mast and rolled into our cosy bunks to wait for the opening of the bridge on the morrow.

The mainsail was unfurled, clicked into position and hauled up the hal-yards. The J.1344 stood out boldly on the spotlessly white background. We then released the sheets and hoisted the Genoa up. It opened like a swan's wings, majestic and dazzling in the sunlight as it towered above us. Its belly filled with morning wind and it funneled it back to the mainsail. They strained and tugged the tortured sheets eager to be gone and away. There was a flap of excited canvas as Anna cast us off.

By now we were beginning to tire of the river and longed for more adventure and we heaved a sigh of relief as the last red and black navigation posts ushered us into Lough Derg.

It lay before us, vast, grey and tossing in the warm west wind. The trees on the far shore looked tiny and inconspicuous amid the tossing waves. The sky overhead was a pale watery grey melting into Lough Derg at the horizon.

The bow sliced through the froth and foam, troughs and waves of Lough Derg in the midst of that vast grey circle, leaving a trail of bubbles behind. The wind was cool and refreshing and twirled the telltales in a careless fashion.

I helmed an estimated 17 miles to Mountshannon and enjoyed every wave of it! Passing Garrykennedy the wind dwindled to a mere whisper and the lap a lap - glug glug could be audible again.

The sheets stopped straining and the tense muscles of the mainsail relaxed after the ordeal.

The glassy lake rippled silver and reflected a mediterranean blue sky and the lush vivid greens of Lough Derg.

Somebody else relieved me of the helm as I went to the bow and looked down into the cool crystal water bubbling by. I got myself into an upside down position with Lough Derg above my head.

My reflection below writhed in snakelike movements. An island lay green in the distance, Inis Cealtra. Behind that lay Mountshannon.

We'd arrived!

FOR SALE

Freeman - 23 Cruiser
with hardtop wheel house
Perkins Diesel engine
Hot-Cold water , Fridge etc
New 1973

Moored Lough Erne 'Carrybridge'
Phone : Maud Fry, Glengormley 2912

Calendar of Events.

Easter Weekend. Informal cruise in company starting at Coosan. Contact D. Delaney or M. Webb.

Whit Weekend. June 1st and 2nd. - Cruise in company to Shannonbridge and Clonfert to Commemorate the 1500th Anniversary of the birth of St. Brendan the Navigator. Assemble at Shannon bridge on Saturday 1st June. Travel to Clonfert on Sunday by water or by light railway (courtesy of Bord na Mona & the West Clare Railway) for an afternoon of festivities including music, poetry, story and an ecumenical service. Entertainment is also planned for Saturday and Sunday evenings, so are you right there Michael?

Whit weekend in the wake of St. Brendan the navigator is organised by Lough Derg Branch, for further information contact Maureen Duffy, 93 O'Connell St., Limerick, Telephone 061 314244 or 061 51478.

Silver Jubilee Shannon Boat Rally. With Commodore Sam Herraghty.

Starting on Friday 26th July in Carrick on Shannon and heading south via Drumsna, Rooskey, Tarmonbarry, portrunny, Hodson Bay to finish in Athlone on Saturday 3rd August. More details and entry forms later.

Lough Derg Rally Ten with Commodore Chris Boyle. Starting in Terryglass on Sunday 4th August and calling to Kilgarvan, Dromineer/Garrykennedy, Killaloe, Mountshannon and finishing in Scarriff. Contact Maureen Duffy, Telephone 061 314244.

End of Season Rally 27th - 29th September. Up and Down Cruise in Company. Details later. Dublin Branch please note!

MARINE RADIO

The stand of the Dept. of Communications at the Boat Show provided a lot of interesting information about the Irish Maritime Radio Service. The Coast Station network on V.H.F. is now working and is in the process of expansion. Already established are Valentia and Malin Head. Valentia works on CH.16 and has two slave (automatic) stations at Knockgour CH. 23 and Kilkeaveragh CH.24; while Malin Head CH.16 has a sub-station at Crockalough CH.23. Calls should be made to the slave stations rather than the main station. These coast stations will provide all the usual services such as link calls into the telephone system, telegrams, weather forecasts, traffic lists and medical advice. Naturally to avail of link calls or telegrams, radio installations must be licenced and be able to quote their AAIC (Accounting Authority Indicator Code).

of more immediate interest to boats on the inland waterways is the fact that within a month or two another coast station will be working at Rosslare, and in another year or so more will be established. For instance already a coast-watch (safety only) is already working on CH.16 based in Dublin Airport.

These developments mean that boats on our inland waterways must exercise greater care and discipline when using V.H.F. radio. These coast stations are situated and equipped to transmit and receive over quite large distances and in certain atmospheric conditions V.H.F. traffic on our waterways could be quite easily picked up on the coast. Incorrect usage of channels or incorrect procedures could interfere seriously with the use of V.H.F. radio for Safety at Sea.

The consequences of this welcome expansion of our coastal services are serious as far as inland waterways are concerned. Correct procedures (i.e. phrases and words) must be used and correct channels must be used. It is not good practise to 'pick a channel' (a term one hears frequently on the air) - there are certain channels for certain purposes and a radio operator should know these. The logical conclusion is that all radio installations and operators on the inland waterways must be licenced. Too many boat owners think it is not necessary or else that 'they know it all'. The formalities are quite simple and the rules are easily learned. For further information write to Dept. of Communications, Marine Radio Division, Setanta Centre, Sth. Frederick St., Dublin 2. Let's get our act together before its done for us.



ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch, Inland Waterways Association of Ireland

All Correspondence to: Athlone Aerial, Seans Bar, Main St., Athlone.

May 1985

A good start is half the race. Judging by our performance in the past we will, come September, be pulling our hair out and tut tuting about bad press over Athlone's image.

The problem is two fold. We have vandals and we have litter. These in themselves are not insurmountable but what appears to be the real problem is where does their responsibility lie.

The buck stops where. Now with the season in its infancy there is time to do something. Will the hire operators again advise by passing Athlone? Will visiting anglers again leave in disgust?

The next branch meeting will take place on
Friday May 3rd at 8.30pm in Seans Bar

Agenda:- Minutes
Correspondance
Whit Rallies
Insurance
A.O.B.

I.W.A. Visitors

40 members of the British Inland Waterways Association are coming on a coach tour of our canals and rivers under the guidance of Ruth Heard during the last week of May. They will also take a boat trip on Lough Ree during their stopover in Athlone. There has to be an opening there for some enterprising young publican to organise a welcoming party.

Shannon Boat Rally

Your Rally entry form is enclosed so dont forget to complete and return it to Nora P.Gallagher, 18 Ballytore Rd., Rathfarnham Dublin 14, as early as possible please. The closing date for entry is Friday 5th July.

Rally Booklet

Also enclosed is your order form for the Rally Commemorative Booklet 'Silver River' which is due to be published in May. Remember this is a limited edition so book early to avoid disappointment. Books are £3.95 each and order forms should be sent to Nora P.Gallagher 18, Ballytore Rd., Rathfarnham, Dublin 14.

St. Brendan

Remember Whit Weekend at Shannonbridge 'In the Wake of St. Brendan the Navigator' organised by Derg Branch. Boats assemble at Shannonbridge on

Dear Sir,

A recent letter in the Westmeath Offaly Independant highlighted the eye-sores around Athlone, among the local monuments was the hanging garden of dandelines on the parapets of the bridge at Athlone. This bridge is the responsibility of Westmeath County Council and no work was done last year to clean this eyesore. Who or what organisation can do anything about this neglect.

The Council will no doubt claim lack of finance, once again!! Can the Chamber of Commerce put pressure on anyone?, after all it is in their interests to see the town kept tidy, or will it be left to volunteer organisations to carry out a public service.

Signed B.H.

For Sale

25' by 8' Clinker Built Cruiser
Perkins Diesel
£2,500
Seans Bar 0902-2358

Comings and Goings

Local boating activity is still mainly ashore, with all those winter repairs being crammed into every bit of available sunshine, many working under the pressure to be ready for the forthcoming Lough Ree Yacht Club Sailing Cruiser Series which starts at 2pm on Saturday May 11th. Those afloat have only ventured for short trips due to the strong cold winds.

A good number of hire boats are evident and already the strong winds have taken their toll of these with boats damaged in the Hodson Bay.

The talk around the branch is about plans for the development of Lough Ree. Since Councillor J.Kirwan of Roscommon Co.Co., presented his report to the M.R.D.O., Athlone U.D.C., and Westmeath Co.Co., have announced plans for the development of the promenade at Athlone and Lough Ree respectively. A branch subcommittee are preparing our proposals for Lough Ree development which will be presented to a meeting organised by the M.R.D.O., on 14th May. The meeting will be chaired by Councillor J.T.Kirwan, Roscommon Co.Co., and presentations will be made by Westmeath Co.Co., Roscommon Co.Co., E.S.B., Longford Co.Co., O.P.W., Central Fisheries Board, Lakeland Tourism/ Bord Failte and I.W.A.I.

Things are looking hopeful for the Portrunny jetty project, money has been set aside for the first phase and the engineering aspects of the project are currently being examined.

Ripley

Seans Bar has had the floor tiles replaced.
Believe it or believe it not!



ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch ,Inland Waterways Association Of Ireland
All Correspondence to: Athlone Aerial, Seans Bar, Main St., Athlone.

A T H L O N E A E R I A L

J U N E 1985

The season, late starting now gathers momentum. The tall ships on Ree have done battle. The mayfly is up with grown up men seen in full flight at this strange sport. Like in the Dail, matters of national importance will be cocooned as vacant desk blotters depict little men in little boats.

The next branch meeting will take place on Thursday 30th May at 8.30pm in Seans Bar.

A G E N D A : Minutes
Correspondance
Insurance
Rallies

The Editorial Staff of the Aerial have now been demobed until recall come September. There is talk of fencing lessons as alternative job satisfaction.

I N S U R A N C E

"The insurance is fixed up" and rally organisers all over the country can breath a sigh of relief. I expect you have all

increase in premium being asked for renewal of our Marine Insurance Policy.

At first the premium was being increased from £400 to £12,000. This figure was then reduced to £9,000, which was still unrealistic as far as our financial resources were concerned. Other Insurance companies both in Ireland and England were asked for quotations to no avail.

Our legal adviser examined our situation and advised that in the absence of adequate insurance cover, the organisers of rallies etc. would be putting themselves at undue risk.

The Sallins Rally was cancelled as a result of this advice and fortunately the cancellation notice came to the attention of RTE. Peter Hanna was then invited to go on the radio programme on RTE Radio on Saturday Morning 11th May. Peter obviously got the message across loud and clear because on Monday 13th May the Association got an invitation to a meeting from the Insurance Company to talk about a new offer.

The new offer was a renewal premium of £800 for this year with a review in October. This was accepted by the Association.

The probability of further increases next year is very real, but for now our insurance problems are sorted out and rallies etc. can go ahead as planned. Well done all concerned.

"SILVER RIVER"

The rally booklet "Silver River" was launched at a splendid ceremony hosted by Shell Ireland Ltd. in Shell Ireland House, Dublin on Monday 20th May.

Association President, John Sutor and Rally Committee Chairwoman Marie Hyland thanked Shell Ireland for their support in the publication of the book and also for their continued support down through the years in the publication of Shannon and Canal guides. Thanks was also extended to Afloat Magazine, for their assistance in the publication; to David Nowlan who collected and edited the material; and to the contributors, published and unpublished.

Sean McBride addressed the large gathering which was representative of Shell Ireland, Afloat Magazine, IWAI Executive + Council, Rally Committee, Contributors to the book, and press.

He reminisced on his early days cruising with Col. Harry Rice on an almost deserted river Shannon. There were very few cruisers on the river in those days and only in recent years has the recreational potential of the waterways been recognised.

He urged further development of the Shannon and Canals as heavy bulk cargo transport systems.

The book is nicely presented and includes 128 pages of articles by well known ralliers. Get your order form to Nora Gallagher, 13 Ballytore Road, Dublin 14 as soon as possible, remember its a limited edition and its selling like hotcakes.

LOUGH REE DEVELOPEMENT PLAN

The sub committee report a very worthwhile meeting organised by the MRDO was held in Athlone on 14th May. Statements were made to the meeting by the County Council of Longford, Westmeath and Roscommon, ESB, O.P.W. Parks & Monuments and Shannon Navigation, Central Fisheries Board, Lakeland Tourism and Athlone Branch IWAI.

Each group put forward their own ideas for the developement of Lough Ree and its surrounding area, and while the emphasis on certain aspects varied slightly there was a lot of common ground on which an integrated plan for developement could be built.

The Athlone branch IWAI put forward suggestions for small jetties at various locations around the lake which would afford a choice of safe mooring places in all weathers. They asked for the extension of the navigation system into Derry Bay + Inny Bay areas as well as Galey Bay + Portrunny.

The provision of litter Bins and cleaning and servicing of developements was highlited as a priority requiring urgent attention and ongoing committment.

Councillor J.T. Kirwan, Chairman of the meeting thanked everyone for their contributions and suggested a follow up meeting in September to organise a subcommittee to get the integrated plan for developement of Lough Ree on the drawing board.

ANOTHER FLOTSAM & JETSOM SALE

Shannon Harbour Boat Rally, Sat June 22nd, 5 - 6 pm.

We feel that every boat owner has a collection of "Boat Articles" that are surplus & this year we are asking you to include household, & Horticultural or anything else you may uncover. So now is your chance to clear out this "Hidden Treasure".

On Saturday at 5p.m. we'll have a sale of such items!

You must mark each item with;

(1) Your Name & Boat Number

(2) A reasonable price (from which a 10% fee will be deducted in aid of the Shannon Harbour I.A.W.I. Branch).

If you are unable to deliver on Saturday you may leave your "Treasure" at an earlier date with 'Peter' in Guinans Pub - Shannon Harbour. All unsold items must be collected by Sunday evening and are accepted at your own risk. Suggestions; Ropes, Shackles, Books, Fenders etc.

RALLIES

Athlone branch rally is heading south to Shannonbridge for Whit Weekend to join in the "St. Brendan" Celebrations organised by Derg Branch. Assemble at Shannonbridge on Saturday and check in with "LOTUS TWO" for your commemorative plaque and pageant tickets. Sunday travel to Clonfert by boat or train. Service starts at 15.00hrs.

The "original alternative" Rally will, as usual take place to Lecarrow also at Whit weekend. No entry fee, no competitions, no prizes, do as you please. Arrive Saturday 1st June, leave 3rd June.

Please send in your entry forms for the Shannon Boat Rally now. The closing date is 5th July.

Hope to see you there.

Q. How would you flatten a ghost -

A. With a spirit level of course.

Q. How did mammy climb up the wall -

A. She had a ladder in her stocking.

Jokes courtesy of Rory & Jane, who should have been in bed.

R.N.L.I. (Athlone Branch)

Many thanks to all who assisted by collecting for Irish Lifeboats last month. The amount raised came to £450.00.

S A I L I N G

The Sailing Season started from Lough Ree Yacht Club in May and for your information all racing marks are yellow bouys with or without flags.

F I S H I N G

Athlone Anglers, Central Fisheries Board and public representatives recently conducted a trout restocking ceremony at Hodson Bay on Lough Ree. The exercise is the start of an ongoing restocking programme to improve game angling on Lough Ree.

Thats all for now Folks. We're off until September, until then may we wish you fair winds, warm sun and safe cruising.



ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch ,Inland Waterways Association Of Ireland
All Correspondence to: Athlone Aerial, Seans Bar, Main St., Athlone.

September, 1985.

And it rained for forty days and forty nights.

Genocide Ch. 13

This season perhaps can be better regarded as water under the bridge. However despite difficult conditions there has been considerable activity. The hire fleets to date have been kept busy despite very heavy weather keeping craft restricted to safe harbours. Hopefully this advance booking market will not be unduly affected in '86.

Full marks to Shannon Rally Committees both North and South for entertaining the troops.

The North branch meeting will take place on Friday 5th September
at 8.30 p.m.

in Seans Bar

Agenda: Minutes
Matters arising
Social Evening
Projects
End of season Rally
A.O.B.

THE SILVER JUBILEE SHANNON RALLY

The Shannon Rally Opened it's 25th year with a glittering party on the banks of the river in Carrick. It was glittering because of the candles burning on the gi-normous birthday cake which was iced with the names of all the winning boats in the long history of the Rally. It took Commodore Sam Herraghty quite a while to blow them all out. A super start which put everyone in good humour for the move next day down through Albert Lock to Drumsna, where we stayed 2 nights. First accident was at Albert, where Charlie Bishop, pulling on a warp put his big you-know-what through one of his wheelhouse windows!

Sunday was warm and sunny, visitors arriving from Dublin were asked "what rain are you talking about"? Damien Delaney led an Adventure Trip around the loop through Canal/Jamestown/Drumsna, while the old harbour provided a superb setting for the Water Sports events.

Roskey was the next stop and the competitions really got under way with four being disposed of. Sean Fitz and his usual crew had apparently decided not to do the rally, as the Iron Lung was occupied by a fat Sheik and a crowd of Arabs, although strangely enough the Arabs were later spotted drinking pints outside the Crews Inn.

The run to Tarmon saw some boats sneakily going round by the Camlin, although they certainly weren't doing Brendan Lynchs Time Reliability Competition. At the lock, Alex Feldman's fire-fighting demonstration was quite a success.

On the run down L. Ree the historical chat on Inchcleraun was a "little" late, some having stopped to get parsley in Lanesboro'. And so the rally arrived in Portrunny, an historic occasion. The mooring went well and there was room for everyone. A few anchored off, including Michael Webb who joined us after his trip to Cornwall and the Scilly Isles.

Thursday dawned and for the first time the weather really turned against us - it rained and rained. But rally spirit survived and all 6 competitions were held on schedule. The fleet was well sheltered and that night the R.N.L.I. auction went a bomb with £300 raised.

There were decisions to be made on Friday when the weather caused the cancellation of the planned departure for Hudson Bay and the sailing races were not held. However, no-one really minded and Vincent our publican dashed off to Roscommon for fresh supplies. The adults talent contest was held that night and a great time was had by all. But little did we know!

At 6.15 a.m. the following morning Commodore Sam and Chairman Marie Hyland roused the sleepy fleet and said "we're leaving now". And we did, in nice weather and all were safe and snug in Hudson Bay before 9.00 a.m. when the south-westerly started to blow again.

The final move of the rally was a sensation! A sail-past right into Athlone, through the bridges with horns hooting and bells ringing. What a sight! The dinner that night was attended by Veteran Shannon-er Sean McBride, by Noel Tierney from our sponsors Irish Shell and by Sen. Sean Fallon, chairman Athlone U.D.C.

And so to the results and the announcement that David Killeen and his crew of "Gillaroo Too" had won the Premier Award brought the attendance to their feet in a standing ovation for one of the most popular wins ever recorded. David first competed in the Shannon Rally in 1962. A fine ending to a great rally and congrats to Commodore and Committee.

RALLY QUOTES

David Killeen remarked upon receiving the Priemiere Award of The 25th Shannon Boat Rally. "We are after twenty four years, an overnight success".

Bill Child having gone aground in Hudson Bay, "It could have happened to a Bishop".

Paddy Dowling having heard, "Thy will be done."

Eugene Mathews having rescued, "Wait 'till Dad hears about this."

Vincent McDermot "You should have come here years ago."

Frank Farrell "Stop engines".

Chairwoman Hyland, "Suffer little children."

25th SHANNON RALLY 1985

RESULTS

<u>PREMIER AWARD:</u>	David Killeen (GillarooToo)
<u>OPEN BOAT CLASS:</u>	1st William Magner (Sea Nymph) 2nd Eoghan Doyle (Glenlivet)
<u>MOTOR CRUISER CLASS:</u>	1st Tom Murphy (Corbiere) 2nd Ramsey Henderson (Mary Frances)
<u>SAILING CRUISER CLASS:</u>	1st Andrew Lynch (Maggie May) 2nd David Maguire (Zelide)
<u>BARGE CLASS:</u>	1st Padraic O'Brolchain (Bishop Whelan) 2nd Charles Stewart (Palo Alto)
<u>DENIS BYRNE TROPHY (SPECIAL MERIT):</u>	Norman Furlong (Francesca)
<u>INSPECTION OF BOATS:</u>	R. Henderson
<u>INSPECTION OF OPEN BOATS:</u>	W. Magner
<u>MAN OVERBOARD:</u>	D. Killeen
<u>TIME RELIABILITY:</u>	T. Murphy
<u>MOORING:</u>	D. Killeen
<u>NAVIGATION:</u>	Kieran Walsh (Santa Royale)
<u>1st MATE:</u>	"Lady of Dublin"
<u>RESCUE OF CRUISER:</u>	OVER 25ft. Paddy Healy (Quiet Waters) UNDER 25ft. D. Killeen
<u>VISITORS:</u>	C. Stewart
<u>HIRE BOATS:</u>	Paddy Doyle (Catriona)
<u>BOAT VIA CANAL:</u>	D. Killeen
<u>LADIES BOAT HANDLING:</u>	"Palo Alto"
<u>FELDMAN SAFETY AWARD:</u>	Bob Hughes (Xanthe)
<u>BODERG SAILING RACE:</u>	1st D. Killeen 2nd D. Maguire
<u>L. REE SAILING RACE:</u>	1st Michael Webb (Moondrifter) 2nd D. Maguire

DINGHY RACE:

1st Ml. Miller (Laser)
2nd Daithi Killeen (Mirror)

INVITATION DINGHY RACE:

1st M. Miller
2nd K. Walsh (Laser)

YOUNG MARINER:

Niamh Murphy (Corbiere)

EISTAMAID TROPHY:

Nora Gallagher (Nora III)

SWIMMING:

Nigel Waterhouse Sarah Caden
Shane Little Paddy Finnegan
Nessa O'Brolchain

SPECIAL YEAR OF YOUTH AWARD:

Donal Herraghty

Some members of the Athlone Branch stretched themselves this year and went off to the 6 rings despite King Neptune stirring up the elements all returned home safely to boggy waters, with all sorts of stories and secret smug smiles of having accomplished a great experience, with a determination to extend their cruises next year. We expect a great entry for the Ships Log Competition.

1) Michael Webb and Moondrifter Crew went to the South of England in a Cape Clear and the Scillies, our great navigator met dense fog on two occasions and found his way home.

2) Dorethy English, Harry Donegan and Pat O'Brien took their boats and crews to the Aran Islands and were stormbound in Kilronan for 5 days.

3) Percy Hewitt last seen in Carrigaholt and Killaloe.

4) Sean Fitz got as far as Banagher.

L.R.Y.C. brought their development a stage further by extending the boat compound and finishing off the new Jetty. The annual regatta, like many other events, was beset by bad weather and caused the cancellation of some races, nevertheless it was an enjoyable and friendly week.

The Sailing Cruisers are having another good year of racing, good turnouts and a fair distribution of trophies. However such mundane events as picnics and weekending have been curtailed by the dreadful weather - it can only get better - Can it!!

Lough Derg Rally 10

Even the terrible weather conditions couldnt deter Commodore Chris Boyle from leading his fleet of 80 boats from the Opening in Terryglass to the Closing in Scariff to complete the full programme of Lough Derg Rally 10.

Strong winds and rain made conditions uncomfortable for Barges, Cruisers and Competition Organisers, but the same strong winds gave conditions to test the skill and equipment of the fine sailing fleet which has become a feature of Lough Derg Rallies.

Despite the bad weather the rally moved as scheduled except Saturday when the decision was made to remain in Mountshannon, and buses were laid on to ferry people to and from the Closing Dinner in Scariff.

Highlights were the great Sailing Races, the Barge Race; and Kate Daly's where young and old alike gave freely of their varied talents.

Congratulations to Chris and his committee for safely completing Rally 10 under adverse conditions.

The Premier Award - The J.J. Keneally Perpetual Challenge Cup was won by Vivienne Keane in "Whitethorn" with Tom Quinn in "Abigail" second.

Perhaps:

A recent extract from Athlone Observer

"Although the present unseasonal heavy rain fall is above average for this time of year, farmers and householders in the Athlone area have no cause for alarm.

According to a spokesman from E.S.B. in Ardnacrusha; "As there is quite a lot of evaporation inflows to the river are only one third of that during the winter months". He pointed out that even if the present level of rain continued it is unlikely that the river will approach flooding levels. Whereas normally at this time of the year the Ardnacrusha station operates at minimum capacity. To run off the excess water the station is currently operating at two thirds capacity."

One wonders if this is being optimistic.

For Sale:

Profile 33' Motorcruiser 1977. 2 Merc Diesels.
Aft Cabin Sleeps Six. Heating, Shower Depth Sounder
etc., First owner £32,000.
Phone 051 - 81819

Also: Manta 19' Sailing Cruiser. 1980 Sleeps 4, 5 HP
Outboard, Galvanised Trailer. £3950.
Phone 051 - 81819.



ATHLONE AERIAL

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OCT '85

ATHLONE BRANCH END OF SEASON RALLY

Athlone Branch End Of Season Rally will start on Friday 27th September with Dinner and Dance in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel, starting at 9p.m. Tickets are £ 8.50 and are available from Sean's Bar.

On Saturday there will be a picnic on Lough Ree, weather permitting, final details to be announced at the Dance on Friday Night. There will be a hooley in S.G.S. Marina on Saturday night, and whatever you're having yourself on Sunday.

It promises to be a great week-end so get your Dinner Tickets straight away from Sean's Bar.

The Next Branch Meeting will take place on Friday 4th October at 8.30 p.m.

AGENDA

- Minutes
- Correspondence
- Projects
- Aerial
- A.O.B.

SILVER RIVER

"Silver River" as if you didn't know already , is a book which was published by the I.W.A.I. with the assistance of Shell Ireland Ltd., to celebrate 25 years of the Shannon Boat Rally. The book was written entirely by enthusiasts who have taken part in the Rally over the years and is a must for any Bookshelf, nautical or otherwise. The book has received widespread acclaim from Belfast to Ballinispittle. It moved so fast that one of the larger Dublin bookstores has completely sold its quota and has re-ordered.

We are glad to say that copies are still available , but if you haven't got your's yet, get it soon at £3.95. It would also make a very acceptable birthday or Christmas present for your friends, at home or abroad.

You can order from the Branch Treasurer Sean's Bar or from Nora Gallagher 18 Ballytore Road, Dublin 14.

ATHLONE SUB AQUA CLUB

Athlone Sub Aqua Club are starting their winter training programme at Athlone Swimming Pool on Sunday 13th October at 11.30 a.m. The course covers all aspects of Snorkel and Scuba diving and is run over 10 weeks up to Christmas and for a further 10 weeks between February and Easter. The Club caters for individual or family membership, and all are welcome.

Applicants should be over ten years of age for Junior Snorkelling course or over 16 years of age for Scuba course. They should produce a Medical Certificate of fitness to dive and should be reasonable swimmers.

Further details from Leslie Fitzgerald - Tel: 0902 75915

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Sharpen your pencils you sea dogs there are prizes for young and old. Now is the time to submit your entries for the Harry Rice Cup and Ships Log. All essays and stories of boating rallies, voyages, adventures etc., are welcome. Age limit for Harry Rice Cup is 16 and entries go to Mrs Rosemary Furlong, Garden Vale, Athlone. Ships Log entries, c/o Aerial, Sean's Bar, Athlone, Closing date for both is the end of November. Come on now Mum and Dad's get the children to have a go.

CLASSIC BOOK

The Classic book on Irish Inland Cruising " Voyage in a Bowler Hat" by: Hugh Mallet, will shortly be available in Sean's Bar.

FOR SALE :

"Glider" one of Sean and Dermot's fleet is up for grabs - Details to follow.
English paper please copy.

BEREAVMENT

The death has occurred recently of Terence Mallagh, a devoted member of the I.W.A.I. Terence it was who designed the Floating Jetty in Athlone, north of the Woolen Mills, and was one of the leading lights in developing the Canal Waterbus which gave trips around the Dublin Waterways.

May he rest in peace.

M.O.B.

Seen recently on the Innerlakes an attempt on a very windy Sunday by a yacht under reefed sails to simulate a man overboard rescue. Using a large fender it took five attempts before a very wet body was taken onboard, after about twenty minutes in the water. This was a most sensible exercise and it is to be wondered how many seriously practice effecting such a rescue. It is so easy to give lip service and laugh it off but it should not be so. The writer and crew are giving a day next week-end to this and other crew safety exercises

DUBLIN DINGHY SCRAMBLE

Dublin Branch have organised their Dinghy Scramble for Saturday 5th October. The event is open to inflatable boats up to a maximum of 13 ft., which can be deflated and folded into one third of their length. Boats must be standard Production Models, and may be propelled with a single standard production outboard engine up to 4 H.P. maximum.

The event is designed to test the boat handling skills, team work and endurance of competitors over a course starting above Cross Guns Bridge, Phibsboro, down the Royal Canal to the Liffey, then up the river Liffey through O'Connell Bridge and back down river to the Grand Canal Dock, then up the Grand Canal to finish beyond Portobello Harbour. Boats, etc., must be carried around locks. Competitors are required to wear a buoyancy jacket and a Safety Helmet.

The entry fee is £4 and Applications for entry should be on the Official Entry form which

cont/....

is available from Joyce Waterhouse, 106 Mount Albany Newtownpark Avenue, Blackrock,
Co. Dublin. Tel: 01 831942.

The event is sponsored by Tennents Lager and there is £500 in cash prizes, so get your entr
form straight away. Dublin Branch have put enormous effort into establishing this event
and they deserve your support.

THE LATE MICHAEL FOY

A good book, a comfortable jacket, pipe, and slippers and friends to talk with.
I would have hoped to have these things like you in my retirement and Mike it was not to be.
Thy will be done.

*****"

SYMPATHY

Recent days have seen the sad passing of Mrs Greta Baird. A founder member of our
branch and a life long member of our branch and a life long supporter of our Waterways.
To her family and friends we extend our deepest sympathy.

THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE

The September branch meeting paid deserving tribute to this years river warden.
To our knowledge the incidents of vandalism and theft have been very minor. The contin-
uance of maintaining this vigilance should not waver and greater trust in Athlone by the
Hire Boat Companies may then materialise. Emerald Star Line still display notices deterring
Athlone stopover whilst barrick craft continue to advise their visitors to avoid Athlone.

BALLINSPIITTE REPORT

The statue was smashed . Hit by a car while crossing the road.

BOAT MARKETING NEWS

The Boating fraternity welcome the advent of a new small industry at Athlone. Two Athlonians, Frank Farrell and Paul Sheridan have commenced boat production at Athlone's Monksland Industrial Estate.

Primarily intending to produce outriggers for the competitive rowing market, they are also doing repairs to both carbon fibre composite hulls. Heretofore the rowing craft supplies depended completely on imported craft.

The company is also producing a general purpose 10' dingy in G.R.P. Apart from the main hull a second mould consisting of internal sealing giving a well finished and product of good beam.

Further products being made are White Water G.R.P. canoes catering for varied market demands.

The services offered should be of keen interest both to the Hire Boat Companies and the public generally.



ATHLONE AERIAL

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November 1985

Please note the AGM of the Athlone Branch of the I.W.A.I. will be held on Friday 6th December in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel. Notice of motions should be forwarded to Hon.Sec., Mrs Eileen O'Brien c/o Seans Bar.

The November Branch Meeting will take place on Friday 1st November at 8.30 p.m. in Seans Bar.

AGENDA Minutes
 Matters Arising
 Correspondence
 A.G.M. Review
 Projects

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THE OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING

Extracts: Portrunny

The sub committee reports that our plans have been referred by Roscommon County Council to the Office of Public Works. It is further understood that the O.P.W., are not in agreement with the design. They regard the design as likely to be, in time, structurally inadequate.

Nevertheless the meeting felt that in the event of C.P.W., not providing a jetty in the immediate future we should proceed. The O.P.W., have agreed to mark the navigation when facilities are provided.

The general feeling was that O.P.W., policy and our interpretation of requirements were at variance as to short term. A policy akin to development on The Erne would be very welcome where casual facilities are provided.

The real problem perhaps is O.P.W., unwillingness to change its policy.

End of Season Rally

The meeting expressed regret that some ralliers had split

-2-

the itinerary. The fact that the numbers of branch in itself are small it was felt that it was important for us to support the organisation.

Land Reclamation

Reports of extensive land reclamation work being carried out along the shoreline of Lough Ree were considered. This grant aided work is in a number of areas, bulldozing all into the waters edge. Both An Taisee and ourselves are pursuing this aspect in the hope that the relevant agency will ensure that indiscriminate dumping is prohibited.

Annual General Meeting

Friday 6th December, Shamrock Lodge Hotel. The meeting was quite hot on this subject with various rumblings from back-benchers and party whips. Cries of "your country needs you" "Join the Waterways" and 'Spanish Intrigue' "The Treasurer flies out". All members are requested to attend this years A.G.M.

-----oOo-----

BOAT CLUBS NITE

Niall Tobin, the man.
Prince of Wales, the venue, Athlone
Boat Club, the funds.
Thursday 7th November. A rare treat.

-----oOo-----

STOP PRESS

Essay and Log Entries to

Editor Athlone Aerial
c/o Seans Bar
Main Street,
Athlone

-----oOo-----

RALLY HONOURED

Senator Sean Fallon, Chairman of Athlone UDC presented an official scroll, on behalf of Athlone UDC to Sam Herraghty, Commodore of the 25th Shannon Boat Rally to mark the Rally's Silver Jubilee.

The text of the scroll commended the I.W.A.I. for its trojan work in securing the degree of development presently achieved in the areas of facilities and marketing of the Shannon. It saluted the Shannon Boat Rally as the major sporting and recreational event on our inland waterways, which, apart from the enjoyment it gives to the participants it also provides a significant boost to the town's reputation as a centre that offers an excellent environment for its people and visitors. From its inception in 1961 the Rally has flourished and offers opportunities to a broad spectrum of people both young and old to develop and exploit their skills over a broad range of water activities.

Rally Honoured (cont)

The annual rally has also helped to attract a newfound interest both at home and abroad in the countries greatest natural amenity and has introduced a new era of commercialism based on the increased usage of the river.

Sam thanked Senator Fallon and the members of Athlone UDC for their generous gesture.

END OF SEASON RALLY

Athlone Branch ran a very successful End of Season Rally on the last weekend of September.

The weekend started with a most enjoyable supper and dance in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel on Friday night.

On Saturday the fleet drifted in glorious sunshine across Lough Ree to Barley Harbour where the afternoon was spent enjoying the sunshine and refreshments.

Later that evening the fleet moved back down the lake to SGS Marina where a great night of music and song was enjoyed by all in this splendid new lakeside facility.

On Sunday the statues who could move went north to Killeenmore in Portlick Bay, to sample the delights of another new lakeside amenity, while others went to Rindoon to pick grapes or something and others opted to take a ringside seat at the McGuigan V Taylor fight.

As weekends went this year it was a knockout and a fine exit to another season.

-----oOo-----

See No Evil

- Seen "bending the law" -"Whitefront"
- Seen on the bow of "Linguenda" -"Jade Princess"
- Seen in a field near Shannonbridge - Salima

-----oOo-----

DUBLIN DINGHY SCRAMBLE

Dublin Branch ran another well organised and very successful Dinghy Scramble on Saturday 5th October, over a course starting at Shandon Park Gardens just above the sixth lock on the Royal Canal, down to the Liffey, upstream through O'Connell Bridge and back to the Grand Canal to finish at Ever Ready above Portobello Lock. Competitors raced in inflatable dinghies which had to be carried around locks, across busy streets over a 6ft. wall and down a 15ft drop by ladder.

Thirteen boats started at 30 second intervals which helped spread the field and avoid pile ups at locks etc. Last years winners had an unfortunate breakdown early in the race, while others broke shear pins and swamped engines, which further spread the field arriving at Ringsend basin. Despite all the hazards 11 boats crossed the finish line at Ever Ready, and all crews crossed the threshold of the Lower Deck to welcome refreshment, compliments of Tanants Lager.

Dublin Dinghy Scramble (cont)

The winners Tim and Niamh Millar from Bray who completed the course in 1 hr.37 minutes, were presented with the Perpetual Trophy and a cheque for £200.

Linda Waterhouse and Mella O'Brolchain won the Ladies Award.

The Athlone team of Sam Herraghty and Damien Delaney finished (and were glad of it) fifth.

Dublin Branch Chairman Noel Murphy thanked Tenants Lager for their sponsorship and Ever Ready for their assistance in staging the event. Well done all concerned.

-----oOo-----

Junes Chicken Casserole

When June invited us to dinner one evening she served this chicken dish which we thought was very good. She kindly gave me the recipe and I am glad to be able to share it with you.

6 chicken breasts (skinned) Chicken pieces are just as good
 1 tsp black pepper
 2 tsp paprika
 3 oz butter
 4 oz mushrooms (sliced)
 20 oz can condensed celery soup
 4 oz Gruyere cheese (grated) Cheddar will substitute if
 unable to obtain Gruyere.
 Bread crumbs, optional

Rub Chicken all over with pepper and paprika, (I find there is enough salt in the soup so if you use salt go easy!) In a casserole dish melt butter and fry mushrooms and chicken. Stir in soup and add a little milk if you think it is not liquid enough. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour, i.e. to cook the chicken. Or, cover and place in a slow oven and cook for about 1 hour. When chicken is cooked cover with grated cheese and bread crumbs and brown under the grill.

-----oOo-----

The Killinure Yacht Squadron under the officer of the day L. O'Carra set a 15 mile course for 11 starters out, up and around Hare Island. A most enjoyable days sailing was had by one and all. The evening ended with a Bar-b-que and a Thousand rolls. Winner P. Quigley, 2nd Tony Claffey, 3rd Tom Abraham. A super surprise was the sight of Pat O'Brien looking over a Hickey Boat!!

-----oOo-----

Sailboard

Oceanite Divo 2 Board full racing specification including serifiac aluminium mast and neil pryde cyt racing sail open to offers over £425 Contact: David Dickson

The Owl, Athlone.

Hints for Christmas Presents

"Voyage in a Bowler Hat" £5.50

"Silver River" £3.95

All available at Seans Bar.

R.N.L.I. Xmas Cards great value

I.W.A.I. Ties, Burgees etc.,

-----oOo-----



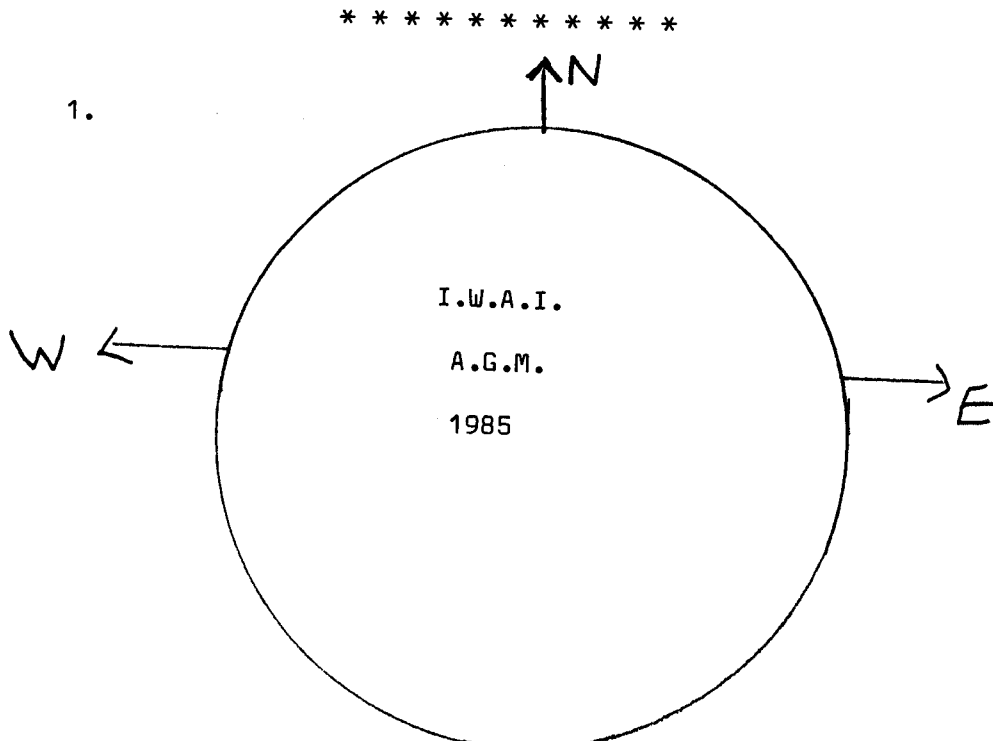
ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch ,Inland Waterways Association Of Ireland
All Correspondence to: Athlone Aerial, Seans Bar, Main St., Athlone.

ATHLONE AERIAL

DECEMBER 1985

1. A.G.M.
Cont.
2. Ireland's Inland Waterways.
3. Scot Free.
4. L.R.Y.C. A.G.M.
5. Barge For Sale.
6. Wedlock.
7. Athlone Lock.
8. Floatels.
9. Sub Aqua A.G.M.
10. For Sale.



MEMBERS NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting of The Athlone Branch will take place on Friday December 6th at 8.30 in The Shamrock Lodge.

The memberships are earnestly requested to attend. Recent years have been lean ones with regard to direct membership participation in Branch Affairs. It is hoped that this situation may be reverted by a policy of more social activity. To achieve this you are invited to participate in this years A.G.M. and help.

2. Ireland's Inland Waterways - a Celebration of 250 years by Ruth Delany
Published by Appletree Press, Price IR£12.95.

This beautifully bound and lavishly illustrated book has to be one of the best and most acceptable of Christmas presents on offer this year. Within 200 pages the author has succeeded in giving a concise history of all the waterways in the country - North and South, illustrated the text with some beautifully evocative old photos and line drawings, an appendix of salient facts such as year and cost of construction, etc. and finally a complete bibliography of waterways publications through the years. All in all, a most pleasant and enjoyable read and highly recommended for inclusion in the stocking. If you don't believe in Santa and nobody loves you, then go out and buy your own copy, it will brighten your Christmas table.

3. Scot Free

Earlier last month many of us were sadly lucky to be present to say good-bye to one of our own. Ray Cadman who due to re-organisation of his firm will no longer be visiting our waters. Ray a canny Scot, living in Plymouth and almost a member of "The Knights", certainly a member of our headquarters will be greatly missed, as will his humour, scotch spirits and his wanderings among the watering holes of the Shannon. Our thoughts go with you Ray.

4. At The A.G.M. of L.Y.R.C. the following officers were elected:-

- Commodore - P. Quigley
- Vice Commodore - A. Ageo
- Rear Commodore - Comdt. N. Donagh
- Hon Secretary - R. Foy
- Hon Treasurer - M. Martin
- Hon Sailing Sec. - B. Hannin
- Committee - P. Mulvihill, D. Croasdell, L. Leech, J. Keane, H. Donagan,
J. Reid, M. Carroll, S. Breen, C. Croasdell, M. Delaney,
M. Cullen, D. O'Meara.

5. Barge For Sale

34M, Lying Dromineer,

An economic proposition.

L. Smith (01) 698713

6. Wedlock:

Congratulations to Jimmy Connolly assistant lock keeper at Athlone on his

recent wedding. Good health and happiness from us all.

7. Athlone Lock:

Work in progress at present in replacing the South near gate. Navigation
closed interim.

8. Floatels 1986?

We are pleased to announce that Ronnie Kersley of River Floatel
renoner is back. A Dutch barge, an American market? Watch this river.

9. Sub Aqua A.G.M.

Athlone Sub Aqua Club.

At the A.G.M. of Athlone Sub Aqua Club the following officers were elected:-

Chairman - D. Carr

Treasurer - B. Delaney
Diving Officer - D. Mc Mahon
Training Officer - D. Boland
Competitions Officer - L. Fitzgerald
Equipment Officer - E. Hiney
P.R.O. - D. Delaney

The club are currently training at Athlone Swimming Pool on Sunday mornings
11.30 a.m. - 12.30.

New members are welcome.

10. FOR SALE

'PROFILE' 33FT. MOTORCRUISER.
TWIN MERC. DIESELS.
FIRST OWNER. 1977.
HEATING, SHOWER, ETC.
ANY REASONABLE OFFER.
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