



# ATHLONE AERIAL

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

January 1986

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Christmas comes but once a year,  
But when it comes it brings good cheer.

Wishing one and all a peaceful holiday.

## NEXT BRANCH MEETING

Monday 6th January 1986  
8.30 pm Seans Bar

.....NB. Monday

## ATHLONE BRANCH A.G.M.

Athlone Branch AGM was held on Friday 6th December in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel.

Outgoing Chairman Sam Herraghty reported a reasonably satisfactory year with the highlight being the 25th Anniversary of the Shannon Boat Rally. He expressed concern regarding the dwindling numbers attending the monthly meetings, and posed the questions - should we continue holding monthly meetings? or should the branch be run by an executive committee with quarterly meetings? Do members feel they are well enough informed of branch affairs by the Aerial, that they don't need to attend meetings?

Outgoing Treasurer Sean Fitzsimons presented his report showing a reasonably healthy bank balance carried forward. The major cost being printing and postage of the Aerial. A detailed explanation of the accounts was given by Hon. Auditor Reggie Redmond.

Outgoing Secretary Eileen O'Brien reported on the year's activities covering projects and meetings. She paid special tribute to Sean Fitzsimons who, single handed, collected over £1,000 in prizes and sponsorship for the Shannon Boat Rally.

### The Officers elected for the coming year are as follows:-

Chairman - Damien Delaney ; Vice Chairman - Sam Herraghty  
Treasurer - Sean Fitzsimons ; Hon. Auditor - Reg Redmond  
As there were no takers for the post of Secretary, the election of a Secretary was deferred to the January meeting.

### The Branch representatives on the Shannon Boat Rally Committee are:-

Damien and Bridie Delaney, Sam Herraghty, Denis Treacy, Louis Sleator  
Joan and Nora Gallagher, Andrew Fitzsimons, Alan Waterhouse, Frank Farrell

### The Aerial Committee were elected:-

Declan Walsh, Damien Delaney, Sam Herraghty, Rosemary Furlong,  
Rosaleen Miller, Louis Sleator.

Meeting Change

The date of the monthly meeting was changed from Friday to the First MONDAY of every month in Seans Bar - please note ( Meetings are now on the FIRST MONDAY of each month at 8.30pm in Seans Bar)

Subscriptions for 1986 are :- FAMILY £8.00  
SINGLE £7.00 and are now due!

THE HARRY RICE ESSAY COMPETITION

The winners of the Harry Rice Essay Competition were

- 1st. Aoife Hanley ( age 13)  
2nd. Barbara Smyth (age 12)

---oOo---

Incoming Chairman Damien Delaney expressed his preference for continuing the monthly meetings and the monthly Aerial, in so far as they both served to keep members in touch with current branch affairs. He outlined the current projects and future projects regarding the proposed Lough Ree development, and areas in which we should be more involved such as the Royal Canal restoration; Pollution ; and the development of an awareness among the youth, towards the waterways and conservation.

The branch are currently investigating the establishment of the Waterways Museum so dont throw it out, give it to Sean Fitzsimons.

Dublin Branch Dinner Dance

31st January 1986  
Killiney Court Hotel 9pm - 2am  
Sub £10.00

Hotel accomadation available £8.00 (p.p. sharing)

Christmas Swim This years Athlone Branch Christmas Swim has been postponed to next year as Eric Timon is not available.

You Really Must GO To the Boat Club's Annual Dinner Dance on New Years Eve in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel. A memorable night is guaranteed. Music by the New Avengers. Some tickets are still available from committee members, £14.00 each, dress informal.

---oOo---

GLUHWEIN How about a mulled wine (Gluhwein our German friends call it) for Christmas cheer. If you can spare some of your own elderberry wine for this all the better. To serve 6 not very thirsty friends you will need:-

- 1 inexpensive bottle of red wine
- $\frac{1}{2}$  pint cold water
- 3 cloves
- $\frac{1}{4}$  level teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1 inch stick cinnamon or equivalent in ground cinnamon
- 6 ozs granulated sugar
- The rind and juice of 1 lemon

Peel the rind from the lemon using a potato peeler and put it into a pan with the water, lemon juice, cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon and sugar. Bring the liquid slowly to the boil and simmer it for 15 minutes.

Strain the liquid and return it to the pan. Add the red wine and heat it

5.  
Gluhwein (continued)

but do not allow the drink to boil. Serve in heat proof glasses. I usually add a little brandy to liquid before pouring it into the glasses.

Recommended Reading

Ireland's Inland Waterways : Ruth Delaney  
Silver River : 25 Years of the Shannon Boat Rally  
Voyage in a Bowler Hat ; Hugh Malet  
Thanks for the Memory ; Harry Rice.

All available from Seans or from all major book retail outlets.

Harry Rice Winning Entry

We are delighted to bring you this years winning entry from Aoife Hanley (age13)

THE REEDS

All along the riverbank,  
Like a green ribbon they stand,  
Forming the boundary,  
Between the water and land,  
Like Pan's pipes when they play,  
They bend and flutter, sigh and sway,  
Their little red heads dance around and around,  
In harmony with the sighing sound,  
When the wind tousles their wavy green hair.  
Underneath beneath the stems,  
In the water dim and green,  
Flit the pike, perch and bream,  
But above, beneath a leaden sky,  
The reeds wave and whisper, dance and sigh.

Congratulations to Aoife on this her second 1st. in the Harry Rice Competition. Ed.

Christmas Lights

Athlone Streets shine brightly with a Star of David Theme. We are not secterian, we give credit where credit is due.





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February 1986

The February Branch Meeting will be held at 8.30 pm. in Seans Bar on Monday 3rd February.

**A G E N D A:-**

- Minutes
- Correspondence
- ESB Power Lines
- Projects:- Portrunny
- Museum
- Ballykeeran Jetty

A.O.B.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Dublin Branch Dinner Dance
- Friday 31st Jan.
- Council Meeting
- Friday 14th Feb.
- National AGM
- Friday 21st Feb.

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Subs are now due  
 Single £7.00  
 Family £8.00

Our mailing list is now computerised.  
 Sylvester practicing the Red X

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Branch Meeting Report

Changing the monthly meeting from Friday to Monday night seems to have worked, as there was a large turnout for the January meeting.

Items discussed were:-

A sub-committee has been set up to examine the feasibility of setting up an Inland Waterways/Maritime museum in the Docks area of Athlone. The committee are to prepare a report on how the museum could be set up, funded, run and maintained, and the range and type of articles which would be displayed. If you have any items of interest please contact Sean Fitzsimons, Seans Bar Athlone (0902 2358)

The ESB are currently constructing 3 overhead power lines, each 38KVolt, which will cross the river just north of the proposed new bridge on the new by-pass road at Athlone. This was the subject of some angry debate regarding the legality of constructing these power lines without prior notice or permission, particularly in view of recent discussion and correspondence between the IWAI Council and ESB Headquarters on the whole aspect of power lines crossing navigable waterways.

The power line crossing the harbour entrance at Lanesborough is still causing concern for the safety of boat users, and so far efforts to have this line re-routed have failed. Further representations are to be made to the ESB on both of these problems.

The Portrunny project sub-committee are to meet with local politicians in an effort to have funds set aside in the Roscommon Co Co estimates, so that

Ballykeeran we have been asked by the owner of the property to remove the jetty. The branch are to look for an alternative site in the same general area.

It was with dismay that we read in the Leitrim Observer, a report in the farming section on the Shannon drainage which suggested that since heavy barge traffic has ceased, the water levels could be lowered between Athlone and Keelick. So they think we have wheels under our boats? The article went on to report of a meeting regarding Shannon drainage at the Department of Agriculture which was representative of Farmers, ESB, OPW and IBRA (What? no IWAI)

It was however reassuring to hear Joe Rea suggesting that dredging the channel would allow a better flow of water and hence help to minimise the flooding. Lets hope commonsense prevails.

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the Athlone Branch nominee for the Donal O'Leary Memorial Trophy is our own Aerial Editor - Declan Walsh, for his continued service to the Aerial and the branch over many, many years. Need we say more?

In a general discussion on the role of the Association, the apparent apathy among the membership, and the poor influx of younger members, the feeling emerged that the IWAI tends to do its business in a low profile, formal manner and this procedure does not attract media attention and hence, public awareness. There are enough issues, such as the ESB Power Lines, Pollution, Development etc., which have far reaching consequences and deserve greater media attention. So maybe its time we changed our tack and went "public", so watch this space.

#### Sympathy

On behalf of the Branch membership may we extend sincere sympathy to our Chairman Damien Delaney and his family on the recent death of his Mother.

#### Basic Ice Cream

This is one of the simplest and best ice creams I have ever made. The great thing about it is that it does not require any further attention once it is in the freezer.

- 4 Eggs, seperated
- 4 ozs. castor sugar
- 1 pt cream
- vanilla essence, optional

Whisk egg whites until stiff, using a bowl big enough to hold rest of ingredients when added. Then whisk in sugar a spoon at a time, the whites will get stiffer as sugar is added.

Whisk cream until it forms soft peaks, and add to whites.

Whisk egg yolks until creamy and add to cream and whites. Turn into a container (approx 1.4 litre) and freeze.

Leave to thaw at room temperature for 5 mins, and serve.

#### Christopher Columbus      The Athlone Connection.

Born near the Genoa Cafe G1440. Columbus must have spent much of his time at the docks watching the barges come and go and talking with the lads. We know very little about his youth only that he was a student at the old tech.

cont/

as the navigation wasn't marked. It was not easy to get an audience with the OPM. For two years he waited he was from Athlone you see. At last he was received but failed to secure backing as budget committed to Lough Key and Lough Derg.

He then approached an englishman called Henry fishing at the dump. Henry it appears had a lot of alimony committments but he did put him in touch with a publican called Boleyn from Shannon Harbour (now Guinans) This idea got the chop as their cash was needed for a Rally in June.

In despair he decided to emigrate. At that time in Athlone there was a publican who had a flat in Spain.

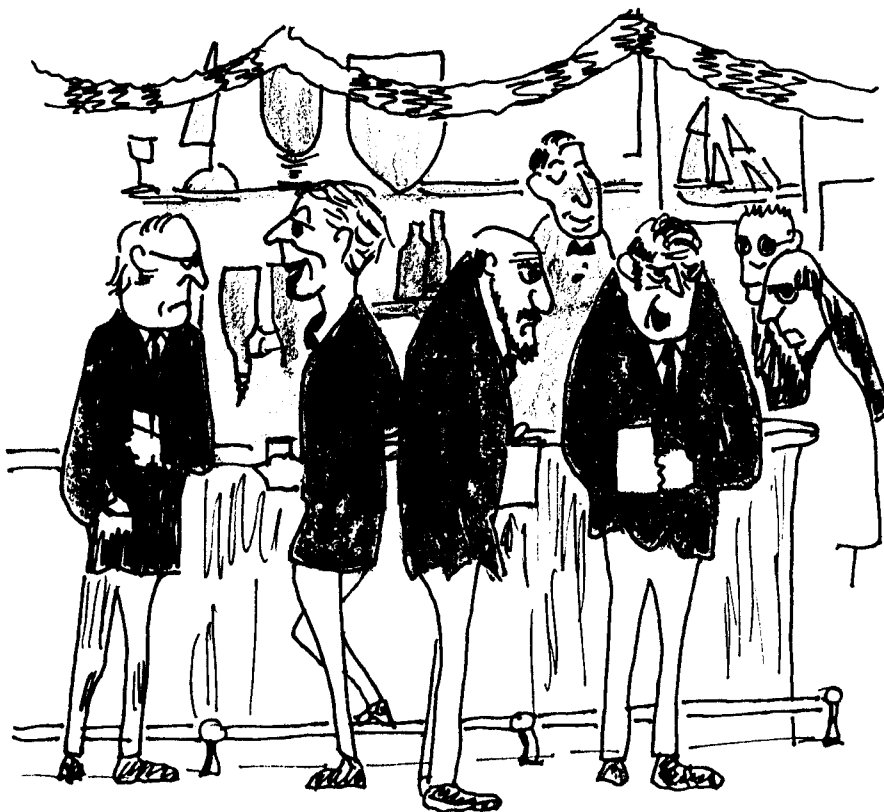
The rest of the story is history.

The I.V.A.I. was founded some years later.

Boat Service

General/maintenance and repairs  
Timber and Fibreglass  
Sliping and towing, estimates on request

Apply:- Louis Sleator  
Linguenda  
The Docks, Athlone



"If he says he's had a Nicholson 32 in his stocking again, I'll do him"

FOR SALE

18' SAILING BOAT (GLEAM)  
Gaff Rigged - New Sails (Tan) 2 Borth .....21,200  
(Shannon Harbour)



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March 1986

Subscriptions Family... £8.00  
Single... £7.00

Sub due if	
Red X	X

The March Branch Meeting will be held in Seans Bar at 8.30 pm on Monday 3rd March, all are welcome.

AGENDA Minutes,  
Correspondence  
ESB Power Lines  
Projects:- Portrunny, Museum, Rubbish Bins  
A.O.B.

The Waterways Museum Sub-committee will present its feasibility report to the March meeting, at which it will be decided whether or not we go ahead with this project. The Museum project is part of a wider Quay-side development proposal being drawn up by the branch. We would welcome as many views as possible so please attend the March Meeting.

Representations have been made to the ESB regarding the 3 new power lines being erected across the Shannon Navigation north of the proposed by-pass road bridge at Athlone. We are still waiting for their reply.

The Council of the IWAI are getting legal advice on this matter and a decision regarding legal action will be made soon.

Discussion on the Portrunny project is ongoing and we are at present awaiting the outcome of Roscommon Co.Co., estimates meeting regarding funding etc.

ANCO have completed 4 sets of rubbish bins and containers, all we need now is painters - any volunteers?

The Branch extends a special thanks to our outgoing Secretary Eileen O'Brien for her dedicated work for the branch over the past number of years as Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and at Council. Eileen has decided to take a well earned rest from the front line, but thankfully she is continuing as an active branch member where her experience and expertise is invaluable.

welcome to our new Secretary Dorothy English, whose energy and vitality is well known to all of us. The branch is in good hands, but we also need your support. There is a whole range of issues regarding Waterway Development and control; Pollution Control; Navigations and their Maintenance free of obstructions; all of which bear a striking similarity with the issue for which the Association was founded back in 1954.

### Royal Canal Bus Tour

Eddie Slane has arranged a Royal Canal Bus tour of restoration work for Sunday March 16th. This royal idea will take in developments visiting Maynooth, Kilcock, Engield, Killucan, Mullingar, Bailinacargy and Abbeyshrule. The cost from Dublin of £12.50p will include evening meal and entertainment at the Rustic Inn Abbeyshrule.

The Athlone Branch is organising an Athlone bus to join this tour at Maynooth for 12.30 pm leaving Athlone at 11.00

Dont miss this trip, Contact now:-  
 Dublin start        Eddie Slane  
 Athlone start        Bridie Delaney

### Film Show Supper Night

Getting St. Patrick's Weekend off to a good start the branch has organised a film show evening in the Shamrock Lodge on Friday March 14th at 8.00pm. We again welcome Ruth Heard who will kindly show us her recent film 'Waterways 1985' and the evening will include presentation of the Harry Rice and the Ships Log award.

Supper and music will be provided. Admission £3.00  
 Children Free

Please note starting time : 8.00  
 Tickets must be booked at Seans Bar.

### Are You a Sensible Person

Any sensible person who takes up boating recognises that it is a pastime that has dangers and tries to prepare himself against them. It is possible to protect oneself to a large extent by some simple rules and practices. The first rule for anyone should be Dont Fall Overboard. If somebody does fall overboard it can be difficult to get back on board again especially if they are wearing heavy waterlogged clothing. It is up to the skipper to decide which method of rescue works best on his or her boat. Having worked out what seems a good technique the crew should be given practice in it. However it seems that practicing man overboard drill is something that most of us are going to do when we get time. We are likely to be still waiting to get around to it when we have to do it in earnest. One thing a good skipper might do is to go overboard, wearing full clothing, and see for themselves the problems of reboarding. Although not the same as going overboard while the boat is under way it does give good practice in the actual process.

### Boat and caravan show 1986

Laced shoes and boat shows. Thursday evening, poor Miss Boat Show, a hardy model. The Main Hall better by far than that other place. The real Minister declined the invitation saying sure what would he know about boats and sure maybe he's right. Now, if I owned an island and felt it was leaking I'd be mad not to have an odd tub tied around the shore.

Full marks to the organising committee for a good show in a difficult market at a difficult time. I doubt that our boat industry, whatever about caravanning could stand alone with out our developed hire industry and the support of general tourism and holiday theme.

"Afloat" with yer man O'Coineen bobbing up and down and getting good press and rightly so. Kilcullen, Endas inflatable was on display following its Irish Sea crossing in aid of the Life Boats.

Sailing Schools were prominent with Glenans, Baltimore and our own Teddy Knights Shannon Sailing to the fore. Adventure at its best. Nice to see the Irish Goods Council involved in a group stand assisting a selection of Irish manufacturers of marine leisure equipment.

A good range of small to middle size yachts of Beneteau, Westerly, Etan and the



Boat Show cont.....

All in all a pleasant few hours and I must admit I stole a short tack at the caravans too.

#### The Secondhand Market

Sample	UK STG	Eire punts
Drascombe Longboat	2,500	3,900
Saddler 25	9,000	12,900
Hustler 25	8,850	13,000
Shamrock	10,950	18,000
Norman 20	2,950	5,560
Freeman 23	6,450	8,000
Seamaster 23	7,450	8,500

Extracts from recent magazines.

#### Sailing Dinghy For Sale

Fiberglass 12ft Darragh with Centreboard. No mast, no sails  
Perfect condition with mahogany gunwhales, seats and knees.  
Contact Peter Quigley 0902 85105

#### Athlone Sub-Aqua Club

1986 Training programme has started at Athlone Swimming Pool every Sunday morning at 11.30 am. Come and try it - you'll love it.

#### No Cook Chutney

8 ozs stoneless dates  
8 ozs sultanas  
8 ozs onions  
8 ozs apples, weighed after peeling and coring  
8 ozs soft brown sugar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  pt malt vinegar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  level teaspoon salt  
Black pepper  
Cayenne pepper  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  level teaspoon ground ginger  
1 level teaspoon pickling spice.

Mince the dates, sultanas, onions and apples into a large bowl, stir in sugar and vinegar and mix well. Add salt, black pepper, cayenne and ground ginger. Put pickling spice in a small muslin bag and add. Cover and leave in a cool place for 24 hrs, stirring occasionally. Remove bag from chutney and put into clean, dry jars and cover with vinegar-proof lids to seal.

This chutney may be eaten at once or will keep well for six months if stored in a cool dry place. If you think it is too sweet leave out some of the sugar. The main thing is, that as it is uncooked, your house will not smell of chutney for weeks after you make it.

When I gave you 'June's Chicken' I forgot to mention that slices of lean pork, instead of chicken in this dish are very good. One of my friends suggested that it should be a mixture of pork and chicken, perhaps he is right.



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April 1986

The annual feesco lives on

Hon Treasurer  
c/o Seans Bar,  
Main Street,  
Athlone.

Sub due

if red

X

Subscriptions family £8.00  
single £7.00

Next Meeting Monday 7th April, 8.30 pm Seans Bar:

Agenda: Minutes and Matters Arising  
Correspondence  
Subcommittee Reports - (i) Museum  
(ii) Shannon Flooding  
(iii) ESB Wires  
  
Projects - (i) Refuse Bins  
(ii) Portrunny  
(iii) Ballykeeran Jetty

A.O.B.

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## Shannon Flooding

Mr James Crehan, of the Athlone Regional I.F.A., select committee dealing with the Shannon Drainage, by invitation, addressed the Athlone Branch march meeting on the problems of the Shannon Flooding and on the IFA's proposed solutions to the problem. The IFA want (i) the removal of silt banks and debris in the Meelick area, (ii) the excavation of the channel in the Shannonbridge area (iii) six extra sluices at Meelick (iv) a general improvement of the channel from Athlone to Meelick to allow a greater volume of water to flow. These proposals are mainly based on the 1961 joint OPW/ESB report on the first stage of investigation as recommended in the Rydell report (1954)

They are also proposing to have the water level between Athlone and Meelick lowered by 18" from October to March to help reduce the flood effects. The branch views were made known to Mr Crehan on the above points, particularly in relation to the lowering of water levels. A subcommittee has been set up to examine the information available regarding water levels etc., and to produce a report on the flooding problem.

## Museum

The Museum subcommittee presented their interim report which recommended the setting up of a waterways Museum in the Presbyterian Church on the docks at Athlone. The report dealt with the museum in the context of an overall Quayside and Castle Development. The accomplishment of the museum would be dependent on the co-operation of Athlone UDC, and ANCO for the building, while the wider Quayside Development would require the co-operation of Athlone UDC, ANCO OPW and ESB.

and are now ready for siting at Hodson Bay, Lecarrow and Portrunny before the Summer. Lets hope they are used to good effect.

### Royal Tour

A small group from Athlone branch joined with the Royal Canal Amenity Group tour of the restoration work done on the Royal Canal which was held on 16th March. The tour visited Maynooth, Kilcock, Enfield, Thomastown, Mullingar and finished the evening with a meal and some very live entertainment in the Rustic Inn at Abbeyshrule. The R.C.A.G. are to be congratulated for the quantity and the quality of the restoration work to date, and they deserve our wholehearted support. Interest in the Royal Canal appears to have weakened a little in this area, perhaps it is time to get a good restoration project under way at this end of the canal to revive interest, and extend the restoration.

### Portrunny

The subcommittee are still canvassing Roscommon Co.Co., to have money set aside for the Portrunny development. The indications at present are hopeful that some money will be forthcoming this year. - More anon.

### ESB Wires

Communication with the ESB regarding overhead power line clearance over navigations is now reaching a fairly critical stage and are in the hands of our legal advisers. We will keep you informed as things develop.

### Film Show

The cheese cake slid off the plate on route to the show, a good start. The Shamrock Lodge with its new entrance, its new lobby its new carpet and new bar. Ray you'd hardly know the place except for Frank.

Settling in with the lights down at ninish the house was transported into Inland Waterways 1985. This, for most of us, was the first time we'd ventured into that season without our oilskins. The Brendan Voyage the 25th Shannon Rally, The Shannon Pot, The Dinghy (Dublin) Scramble and a pleasant visit to L.R.Y.C., and L.D.Y.C. regattas. Scenes to be remembered like the Jewish Naval crew ashore at Clonfert, the Shannon Rally line astern at Ballyglass, walking across the Shannon at its source, the Shannon one design, alive and well, a pretty sight. We are very lucky and very grateful to Ruth Heard. A very enjoyable evening culminating in a ramble along the Ballinamore and Ballyconnell Canal. Our Chairman Damien Delaney presented Miss Aoife Hanley with the 'Harry Rice Cup', winner again this year for her poem "The Reeds" with Miss Barbara Smith runner up. Congratulations to both these young ladies and congratulations to Sheila Redmond this years 'Ships Log Winner' for Log of Crannagh.

With great pleasure we bring you a days extract from this delightful narrative of exploratory cruising.

Log of Crannagh 6th August 1985 - 12th August 1985  
(recovery week)

#### Wednesday 7th August - Up the Suck

Morning grey and windy so we rise late. Hang out some washing - double pegged for safety. While Skipper gives Dog a good run I prepare a picnic lunch. Dog very disconsolate at being told to mind the boat. She knows that means we're going somewhere lovely that she can't come.

Armed with the  $\frac{1}{2}$ " Ordnance Survey map we set off in the dinghy to explore. By using the road map we are following in very prestigious footsteps, as Mr. McBride told us at the Rally dinner that he and Harry Rice did just that in the days of pioneering the Shannon. The water level being quite high we did't find the underwater weir that Ruth Heard had told us about.

As we travel upriver I notice, on the starboard bank, beautiful wooden stiles at fences and wooden bridges with handrails at ditches. One could walk a good two miles of river bank. To facilitate those with fishing licences?

Log continued.....

We pull in to the shelter of some overhanging trees for lunch. Beer, turkey pate sandwiches, salad sandwiches, cheese and tomatoes followed by fruit. Refuel the outboard and away we go again only to find just around the next corner is a confluence of waters. Very strong currents. The waterway narrows and we think that we've reached the ford which ends the navigation. We turn for home and make the journey back in two-thirds of the time it took us to go up. Back at Crannagh we get a rapturous welcome from Dog.

Before leaving our mooring I gather some leaves and berries from a tree which I can't identify.

All ready to leave, me on bow in the middle of trees. Because of nearly being swept off by these I fail to obey orders to push off. So, the engine has to do this and the dinghy gets caught in low branches and breaks the painter with the thrust. As I regain my equilibrium I see the loose dinghy and manage to grab it with the boat Hook. The breeze is ferocious so skipper has to get the boat lined up, put me on wheel while he goes back into dinghy and ties temporary knot in painter. - Very glad he took his scouting seriously!

Clear run down to Shannon Harbour turn but skipper turns other way! We moor for the night very cosy in Ballinasloe canal mouth.

Just settled in and having a relaxing tippie with who should we see turning into Shannon Harbour but "Orla Eile". A blast from our horn and Peadar turns smartly and comes to join us. Sometime later saw Lung come from Banagher and turn into Shannon Harbour. Did not blow our horn. No room; No pub! Shortly afterwards Peadar left to have a look at Shannon Harbour for the first time.

The Skipper succumbs to his passion for canals and goes to examine the remains of the 37th lock and I take to the galley. While scrubbing potatoes I can't help thinking of a story told to me by one of the Shannon Saviours. It seems that when C.I.E. talked of handing the Ballinasloe Canal over to Bord-na-Mona they (the Saviours) readied two boats to do the journey to Ballinasloe - which by law would have saved it for another three years. By then the climate for closures might have changed. For some reason they were talked out of it at the last minute. What a shame. In really bad weather, as now, it would be a lovely change.

Skipper back. Says you'd hardly know that there was a canal above the lock! Experimental supper of steak, coated with mixture of French mustard tomato puree, sugar and herbs, with sliced onion in the middle all wrapped in foil and roasted. Served with parsnip and baked potatoes. Very peaceful night.

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#### For Sale

Wayfarer Dinghy, cover and Trailer  
16 ft. fibreglass, Bermudian Rig, Good Day Sailer.  
Price £2,000 Tel: 01-803014

Life Boat Flag Day      ATHLONE Saturday 5th APRIL

Please give an hour .

Boxes may be collected at Seans. Contact Berchs Hannin

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May 1986

Subscription Final Notice

Paid	Unpaid

Family £8.00/Single £7.00

The May Meeting will be held in Seans Bar at 8.30pm on Monday 5th May.

AGENDA : Minutes  
Correspondence  
Projects  
Whit Weekend Rally  
A.O.B.

### Quayside Development/Museum Project

Athlone Urban District Council received a deputation from Athlone Branch I.W.A.I., on Monday 7th April to discuss the proposed Quayside Development/Museum project. The deputation of Damien Delaney, Jean Hollinshead and Paul Doran told Athlone U.D.C. that the tourists first view of Athlone was that of the town dump on one side and a derelict quayside on the other side which did little to invite the tourist to stop over and spend some time in the town. The castle, which had enormous potential as a focal point, and tourist attraction was also showing signs of decay and we felt that now was the time to give the castle and the quayside a facelift.

Our proposal could be divided into three elements:-

- 1) A complete facelift of the Castle to include cleaning of the stonework etc., and to provide floodlighting.
- 2) A clean up of the quayside with the provision of additional trees, seating and lighting. The removal of the OPW crane base and shed, ESB & Telecom Eireann poles and cables. Encouragement to property owners in the area to facelift and develop their premises to compliment the area.
- 3) For Athlone UDC to acquire and preserve the Presbyterian Church so that an Inland Waterways Museum could be established in the area.

Mr Jack Taffe, County Manager told the deputation that if the IWAI were to go ahead and undertake the seating and tree planting and general clean up it would go a long way towards creating a favourable climate for the enterprise. He said that the IWAI as a voluntary organisation should have an easier job raising funds than would a statutory body such as the Council. He assured the deputation that no move would be made to demolish the Presbyterian Church without a prior decision of the UDC. Our thanks to the chairman and members of Athlone UDC for the enthusiastic and courteous manner with which they received our deputation.

### Shannon Flooding

The Shannon Flooding sub-committee reported to the April meeting on the items raised by Mr Crehan of the IFA. The sub-committee are gathering

isolated sections would give very little flooding relief, that the complete section from Athlone to Meelick would have to be dredged to give any improvement to the situation, but the effects that this would have on the rate of flow of the river and on the ecology of the whole area would have to be studied carefully before such a project was undertaken. The branch decided to oppose any moves to lower the water levels as this could interfere with navigation.

### ESB Wires

The saga of low ESB power lines goes on with little progress, in fact in their most recent correspondence the ESB advise us that prudence would dictate that the height of boats sailed on the river should be based on the minimum clearance of 10.6 metres above normal summer water level. If prudence took a walk around Lough Ree and Lough Derg she could count at least 100 sailing boats with masts well in excess of this height. But we struggle on regardless!

### Rubbish Bins

Our grand new rubbish bin containers have been installed at Hodson Bay and Lecarrow. Alas some terribly wicked impetuous thespian (TWIT for short) decided to burn his rubbish inside the container at Lecarrow and destroyed our grand paintwork. It has to be mother Ireland, etc, the crowd from the fatherland didnt arrive yet.

### Whit Rally

Offaly Branch in conjunction with Derg Branch are organising again this year what promises to be another weekend of divelment.

Fri 30th May : Proceed to Shannon Bridge  
Sat 31st May : Boat registration 10.00 - 13.00 hrs  
at Shannon Bridge  
Sun 1st June : Clonmacnoise, Ecuminical Service and Blessing of New  
Jetty.

The weekend will include water sports and treasure hunt, entrance fee £10.00 per boat.

### WOK WORK - Stir fry beef with tomatoes

If you have not got a wok this stir fry beef can be made just as well in a large frying pan. Everything you cook by this method must be cut up very small as otherwise it will not be cooked.

1 lb beef, round or rib steak  
2 tablespoons soy sauce  
2½ teaspoons cornflour  
2 teaspoons brown sugar or honey  
4 tomatoes, halved and quartered  
1 onion finely sliced  
2 oz mushrooms  
mixed herbs, optional pepper and salt  
5 tablespoons oil, approx.

Combine finely sliced beef (pieces about 1 inch long and thin) with soy sauce, cornflour, sugar and 1 tablespoon oil add salt and mixed herbs and set aside.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in wok and stir fry onions, tomatoes and mushrooms for 1 or 2 minutes, set aside.

Heat 2 tablespoons oil in wok and add beef slices. Stir fry quickly for 5 or 6 minutes

Add vegetables and stir until hot. Serve immediately with rice or potatoes.

Some finely chopped carrots and/or a few peas make this dish look a bit more colourful.

Diesel Engine Fault FindingENGINE WILL NOT STARTFuel System Checks

Is there fuel at injection Pump

No

Air in System  
 Choked Filter  
 Defective Lift Pump  
 Fuel tank empty  
 Tank vent blocked

Yes

Control Rod Sticking  
 Excess Fuel control  
 Defective injectors

Mechanical Checks

Air Cleaner Blocked  
 Defective Compression  
 Wrong injection timing  
 Defective air throttle  
 "Stop" control stuck out

ENGINE STARTS AND THEN STOPSFuel System Checks

Air in System  
 Choked Fuel Filter  
 Defective lift pump  
 Faulty Injectors  
 Tank vent blocked

Mechanical Checks

Control rod sticking  
 Defective Governor  
 Wrong injection timing  
 Poor compression

ENGINE KNOCKSFuel System Checks

Injection pipe partly blocked  
 Faulty injectors  
 Faulty calibration  
 Incorrect phasing

Mechanical Checks

Injector timing too early  
 Bearing worn  
 Pistons worn  
 Broken valve spring

ENGINE SMOKES EXCESSIVELY (warning signs of trouble to come)White smoke - Check for

Air Leaks  
 Poor compression  
 Fuel injection phase angle incorrect  
 Defective fuel pump timing

Black smoke - check for

Excess fuel device stuck out  
 Max stop screw wrongly set  
 Fuel injection pump delivery valve defective  
 Fuel injection pump calibration incorrect  
 Faulty injector

FOR SALE

Cabin Cruiser "Jolly Roger"  
 Converted Ships Lifeboat 4 Berths  
 Pet/Parr Kelvin Engine  
 Lying Shannon Bridge, Enquire Killeens.

Shell Guide

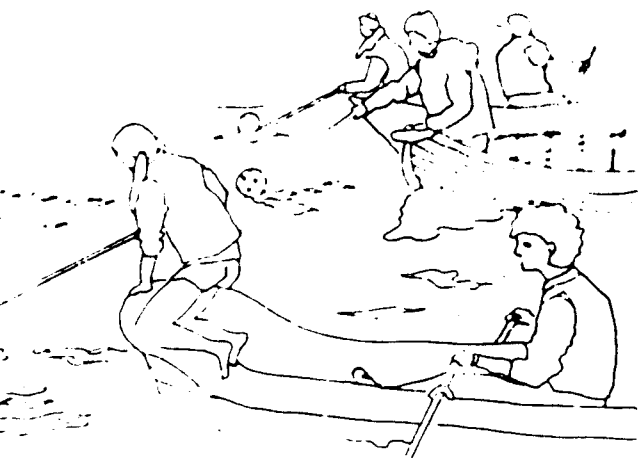
Mr Kerry Sloane of Athlone Cruisers, tells us that Irish Boat Renters Organisation have bought up the remaining stocks of the Shell Shannon Guide.  
 Those of you wishing to secure same will be facilitated through any of the Hire Boat Companies.

Stop Press

Congratulations to Louis Sleanor and Nora Gallagher who have announced their engagement. Could this be a rally wedding?

# The 26th Shannon Boat Rally 1986

FRIDAY, JULY 25th to  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 2nd

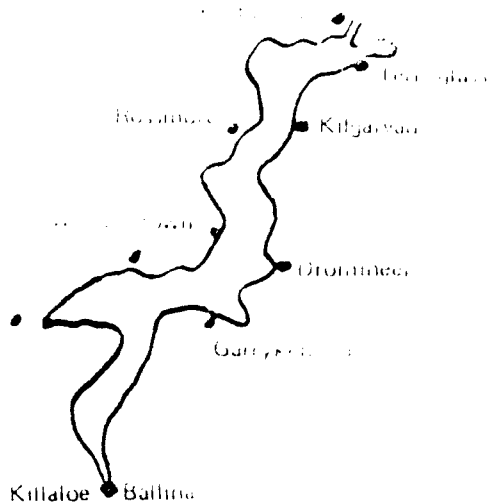


Saturday 26th July:	Tarmonbarry
Sunday 27th July:	Grange Silver Eel
Monday 28th July:	Grange Silver Eel
Tuesday 29th July:	Carrick-on-Shannon
Wednesday 30th July:	Lough Key
Thursday 31st July:	Lough Key
Friday 1st August:	Cootehill
Saturday 2nd August:	Carrick-on-Shannon Closing Dinner in The Bush Hotel

*(The above itinerary is subject to alteration at  
the discretion of the Committee)*

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## LOUGH DERG RALLY ELEVEN



### RALLY PROGRAMME

UNOFFICIAL ASSEMBLY	GARRYKENNEDY
	Sunday 3rd August
FIRST NIGHT (MONDAY)	Mountshannon
	Briefing 19.00 hours
SECOND NIGHT (TUESDAY)	Sarriff
THIRD NIGHT (WEDNESDAY)	Killaloe
FOURTH NIGHT (THURSDAY)	Mystery Stop
FIFTH NIGHT (FRIDAY)	Kilgarvan
SIXTH NIGHT (SATURDAY)	Portumna

Rally Honorary Secretary: Mr. J. J. O'Connell,  
"Lindesfarne", North Circular Road, Clontarf  
Tel. (061) 514478

Prizegiving Dinner and Dancing  
Westpark Hotel, Portumna

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# ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch, Inland Waterways Association of Ireland

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

June 1986

## Rubbish

The May meeting concerned itself with rubbish,- or rather the disposal and collection of refuse. There were complaints about the infrequent collection system around the docks area at Athlone, at Hodson Bay, Lecarrow and Portrunny. With so much unemployment in the area it seems odd that a few extra people could not be gainfully employed in the refuse collection system to "keep Ireland tidy". We too play our part by being a bit more careful about the way we prepare and dispose of our refuse. Our efforts will be directed towards getting more frequent collections particularly during the boating season.

## Museum

A survey of the Presbyterian Church has been undertaken. A complete new roof and floor will be required and costings for this work are being prepared.

A sub-committee meanwhile are pressing ahead with the quay wall seating and tree development, and costings etc., are being prepared before final proposals are presented to Athlone UDC.

## Flooding

The flooding sub-committee continue to enlarge their information file with an excellent report from John Weaving on the problems and possible solutions in the Meelick, Banagher, Shannonbridge, Clonmacnoise and Wren Island areas.

In his report John points out that flooding is due to natural restrictions in the river which if removed would cure most of the flooding problems. The three main areas are one mile and two miles upstream of Meelick Weir and immediately upstream of Banagher.

There are 8 locations listed at which if restrictions were removed would reduce the flooding. However John warns that "without annual flooding the fertility of the callow lands will be reduced. The annual top dressing of nutrients particularly those originating in Athlone will be missed".

## Whit Weekend Rally

The branch are joining with the Offaly and Lough Derg Branch rally organised for Shannonbridge and Clonmacnoise for Whit Weekend:-

Fri. 30th May	Assemble at Shannonbridge
Sat. 31st May	Registration 10.00-13.00 Entry Fee £10
	Water Sports and Treasure Hunt on River Suck
Sun. 1st June	Clonmacnoise, Service and Blessing of New Jetty
	Shannonbridge prizegiving etc.
Mon. 2nd June	Boats disperse.

## Shannon Boat Rally

Your entry form is enclosed for the Shannon boat Rally Fri. 25th July to Sat. 2nd August, starting in Athlone and finishing in Carrick on Shannon. Be sure to complete and return your entry form to Rally Secretary, the newly engaged, Nora Gallagher, before Friday 4th July.

The next branch meeting will be held on Monday 1st September which means that while the rest of you can take a break for the summer, the branch officers and subcommittees will still be slaving away over low ESB wires, overflowing rubbish bins, killing dry rot and dragging floating islands off Meelick Weir, so spare a thought.

Until September then may we wish you fine weather and safe boating.

### The Cottage

I would like to recommend to all you readers, a coffee shop "Par Excellence" in Kinnegad called "The Cottage" on the L just before the LH turn for Athlone. It is run by Mr and Mrs W.Keogh late of the Bon Bouche in Athlone, they serve Tea, Coffee, Home made soups, Buns, Scones, Brown Bread, sandwiches and gateaus and a perfect Quiche all fresh and home made, the setting is straight from Homes and Gardens and spotless. I heard some French customer saying it was the best they had seen in Ireland, Wines and Sherries also served. The Village Hotel in Tyrrels Pass is also worth a visit.

Fitz.

### Sympathy

On behalf of the Chairman and membership of the Athlone Branch may we extend our deepest sympathy to both the Chatterton and Finnegan families on their recent bereavements.

A.E. Chatterton upon coming to Athlone many years ago brought and sustained a blend of commerce and caring to our inland lakes. For his foresight we are for ever grateful.

Paddy Finnegan came to the Shannon for some twenty years having participated in one of the very early rallies, an Athlone branch member, whose untimely passing again brings home to all of us the many friends we have lost from this life's great river.

### South-Eastern News after the Winter

A serious problem with silting has been reported wouth of Rathvindon lock where the new bridge crosses the Barrow above Leighlinbridge. Boats drawing a mere two feet have found themselves aground. This has always been a 'black spot' and the new bridge seems to be aggravating the situation. Bill Duggan and John Monahan have contacted the County Council and C.I.E. and have been promised that dredging will be carried out, in the hopes of improving the matter. Your correspondant will keep you posted as to developments - if there are any!

We read in the papers that Barrow Valley Marine have finally been given the go ahead to construct a marina at Cheekpoint, where the Barrow meets the Suir. This will be a great asset as good moorings are hard to come by south of New Ross.

A further and welcome amenity, is a new slip in Duncannon.

The Barrow branch are organising a rally for Whit weekend and another week-long tidal rally during the summer - probably in August. Ideas have also been mooted for a visit to explore the long neglected river Blackwater, which should be navigable as far as Cappaquin. Do come and explore these beautiful waterwa. Further details of events from John Monaghan (0503-31889).

During the winter "Calloo" has been fitted with a new transom, and a number of new planks and ribs, before she sets out to survey the river Slaney, as far as Enniscorthy, with the help of the Wexford sea scouts. So - the spirit of adventure is obviously alive and well in the South East! R.M.

### Wanted

Junior Lifejackets.....Toddler and next size

Tel: Sheila and Reg.

01-504325



# ATHLONE AERIAL

Athlone Branch, Inland Waterways Association of Ireland

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

SEPTEMBER '86

A meeting of Athlone branch IWAI will be held in Seans Bar on Monday 1st September at 8.30pm.

AGENDA+ Minutes  
Correspondence  
Projects  
End of Season Rally  
AOB

Welcome back after the "Summer" break, we hope you got better weather than we did for your holidays. Our quayside development committee were busy during the summer and they hope to start work on the project in the very near future. There is quite an amount of work ahead and we would like to see more people getting involved in branch activities to ease the burden on the regular few.

## End Of Season Rally.

Our end of season Buffet and Dance will be held in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel on Friday 26th September at 8.30pm. Tickets are £10 each and must be booked well in advance from Sean Fitzsimons. This will be followed by our end of Season Rally on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th. The rally programme will be finalised at the September meeting.

## Dublin Dinghy Scramble and Canoe Marathon

Dublin Branch IWAI and the Irish Canoe Union have organised their Dinghy Scramble and Canoe Marathon for Saturday 4th October. The course is run on the Royal Canal, River Liffey and the Grand Canal. The event is sponsored by Tennents Lager and there is £645 in prizes. Further information and entry forms from Noel Murphy at 01 611711 (Office) 01 987168 (Home); or Joyce Waterhouse at 01 831942 for dinghies. Shiela O Byrne at 021 871731 for Canoes.

The 26th Annual Shannon Boat Rally got off to a great start with a lively session of music and crack in teams Bar on Friday night, before setting off on Saturday on a bumpy passage across Lough Ree, led by Commodore Mary Lynch, to Mass on the quayside at Tarmonbarry. This followed by a Cheese and Wine party set a relaxed, easygoing mood which prevailed throughout the week.

On Sunday the rally moved to Grange for a 2 day stopover where Man Overboard, Mooring, Ladies boat Handling, Young Mariner, Boat Inspection, and Sailing competitions were run despite the inclement weather. Night entertainment included childrens talent competition, a film on Scandanavian waterways by Werner Theide and an hilarious auction, conducted by Sean Fitzsimons in aid of the RNLI, Paddy Healy underwent emergency "surgery" also in aid of the RNLI.

The Fancy dress in the Bush Hotel attracted a large clever entry with a cultural group "Ballshi Ballet" coming out the eventual winners.

Wednesday on the Lough Ree and the remainder of the competition. While the rallyists relaxed and enjoyed themselves at the talent competition in the complex, Lough Key was showing its fury as the gale built up, giving the boats on the Rockingham shore a most uncomfortable night. Thursday was rounded off with an excellent buffet in the Lakeshore Restaurant.

A wet and windy Friday brought the rally to Cootehill where the prizegiving took place in the local community hall on Saturday morning. Later the rally moved to Carrick on Shannon for the closing Dinner and presentation of the major awards in the Bush Hotel. Prizewinners were as follows:

Premier Award	K. Walsh	"Santa Royale"
Cruiser class Award	P. Garland,	"Shibumi"
Sailing Class Award	A. Killeen,	"Gillaroo Too"
Barge class Award	E. O. Brolchain	"Bishop Whelan"
Open Boat Award	E. Doyle	"Glenlivet"
Denis Byrne Award	S. Fitzsimons	"Iron Lung"

On reflection it was a very relaxed rally which ran more or less as per schedule, despite some inclement weather, congratulations and well done to the commodores and committee.

With the heavy rainfall this summer it seems inevitable that there will be major flooding problems again this coming winter. We have included a report from John Weaving, on the problems and possible solutions to what has become a major source of frustration to farmers and boating people.

Report to I.W.A.I. Athlone Branch from Mr. John Weaving  
regarding River Shannon Flooding. April 1986.

It is usual to blame the navigation weirs and the operation of the sluices for any flooding on the Shannon. However anyone who has travelled upstream in a laden boat or with a heavy tow in flood conditions will realise that flooding is due to natural restrictions in the river, and that the weirs, sited on wide stretches of the river can handle any volume of water which reaches them.

In times of flood the river level does not rise in an even gradient between weirs, but rises in a series of steps each showing a natural restriction of the river. On the section between Athlone and Meelick there are three main restrictions which if removed would almost cure all problems. All data relates to flood conditions.

1. A small island 1 mile upstream of Meelick Weir. This restricts the flow to a very narrow and shallow channel, on the Galway side. The wider channel east of the island is blocked by silt and reeds. Below this point there is no flooding, the river being contained between its banks. Immediately upstream the river is at Bank level, the side drains backed up, and the low parts of the fields flooded. Obstruction approximately 100 yards in length; Rise in river over this distance 2'; rate of flow 4 knots. ( 3 times that in the river below this point.).
2. Shannon Grove 2 miles upstream of Meelick. Known to canal hands as Wallers Ford. Area of shoals and shallows, blocked by two small islands. Exit from back river. North of Inishee blocked by shallows and reed beds. Entrance to back river behind Muckinish and leading to auxiliary sluices very badly silted with milled peat. Obstruction  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile; rise in river 6 feet all callows deeply flooded. Flow up to 5 Knots.
3. Immediately upstream of Banagher. Here a small island restricts the flow to a narrow shallow channel on the Galway side. Wide passage east of this island appears blocked. There are additional shallows upstream of this island. Length of restriction 200 yards; Rise in

Lough Derg Rally 11 also ran its course despite one or two minor setbacks in the early part of the week, caused by gale force winds and torrential rain which forced the rally to stay an extra night in Scarriff and skip the trip to Killaloe. All the competitions were held, some in arduous conditions, except the sailing cruiser races, two of which were abandoned because of, would you believe it, lack of wind. Night entertainment in Scarriff was provided by the Fancy Dress where again that cultural group "Ballshi Ballet" emerged the winners, and the talent contest, which were held in the Lakelands Hotel. An early morning trip to Shannon Airport was arranged to Welcome home Pat Lawless following his successful single handed crossing of the Atlantic, well done Pat.

Following the torrential rain of Tuesday and Wednesday, the Scarriff river was in full flood, but commodore Joe Treacy and his committee took extreme safety measures to ensure that all boats got through his stretch of river safely, on their way to Dromineer on Thursday. The sun shone on Friday as the boats made their way to Kilgarvan. The sailing race was abandoned because there was no wind, so the sailors went to Rossmore for a picnic and tour up the Woodford River. Good to see John Weaving back at the helm, dredging the bar at the mouth of the Woodford river.

The sun shone again on Saturday, which encouraged a large entry and audience for the water sports which was organised by David Knight, and could only be described as hilarious, or chaotic, depending on your point of view, but it put all the rallyists in good spirits for the trip to Portumna for the closing dinner and prizegiving. Another good Derg Rally. Well done to Commodore Joe Treacy and his hard working committee. The Premier Award was won by Mark Maguire on Maan of Derg.

My contention regarding these blockages can only be proved by the installation of depth gauges just above and below each of these areas. At present the O.P.W. only takes river levels at certain points, however if the levels, taken on any day of flood at Athlone, Banagher and Meelick Lock are related to O.S. datum, it will be found that, the fall in river level between Athlone and Banagher is approximately 1" per mile, while that between Banagher and Meelick is in the order of 2' per mile. A fair indication of where the major problem is situated.

With these downstream problems solved, some further points will be found to hold back water. Likely areas are:-

4. Bend upstream of confluence of Broyna River. Removal of milled peat banks from Northern exit from canal and entrance to back river behind Bullock Island should cure any problem.
5. Derry. This cut may prove to be inadequately dredged.
6. Shannonbridge Abutments built during construction of Bord na Mona bridge seem to restrict flow and have greatly reduced maximum run at Shannonbridge itself. Shannon Bridge; shoals and the tail of Long island prevent flow through all arches except the Navigation arch.
7. One mile upstream of Clonmacnoise. Cut may prove inadequate.
8. Wren Island. Cut may prove inadequate.

It should be born in mind that without annual flooding, the fertility of the callow lands will be reduced. The annual top dressing of nutrients particularly those originating in Athlone will be missed.

Signed. John Weaving.

REMINDER

ALL YE SCRIBES REMEMBER:-

- (1) The Harry Rice Essay competition for an essay on any inland waterway - open to all age groups.
- (2) The Ships Log Competition for the best log of any voyage - open to all age groups,

Send your entries to The Aerial C/O Seans Bar. Athlone.



# ATHLONE AERIAL

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

October 1986

The October Branch Meeting will be held in Seans Bar on Monday 6th at 8.30pm

- Agenda: Minutes  
Correspondence  
Projects  
Motions for A.G.M.  
A.O.B.

## Members Notice of A.G.M. 1986-87

Please note that the Annual General Meeting of the Athlone Branch of I.W.A.I. will be held in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel on Friday November 7th at 8.30p.m. Notice of motions to Hon.Sec., 21 days prior to meeting please.

The September meeting was well attended and the discussion covered - refuse collection; discharge of effluent into the River Inny; quayside development at Athlone; an alternative site for Ballykeeran jetty; and our end of Season Rally.

- Refuse bins have been provided at Athlone, Hodson Bay and Lecarrow and they are being used, the problem is that the refuse is not being collected often enough to prevent bins overflowing, leaving bags of refuse at the mercy of dogs and birds to scatter litter around these sites. Surely with a little bit of effort and goodwill, the local authorities should be able to deal with this problem.
- Longford Co.Co., answered some of our queries about the discharge of effluent, from the new meat packers factory at Ballymahon, into the River Inny, but they did not reply to further queries we made for clarification of some of the figures which they quoted for fat and grease levels. While the figures quoted are within the terms of the legislation, there is always the risk of malfunction, so vigilance and close monitoring is required.
- Our quayside development team have been working miracles again, and we are happy to report that Anco have started work on phase I of our quayside development programme which will provide a stone barrier wall with seating, trees, lights and water along the quayside in front of the castle. Well done all concerned, keep up the good work.
- Our efforts to date have failed to get an alternative site for our dinghy jetty at Ballykeeran, but we are still searching for a suitable site.
- Our end of Season Buffet and Dance will be held on Friday 26th September in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel at 8.30pm. Tickets are £10.00 and should be booked from Sean Fitzsimons, Bridie Delaney or Sheila Herraghty. The Rally will be held on Lough Ree with a Saturday afternoon picnic/Barbacue in the Portlick Bay area and an overnight stop in SGS Marina. Sunday afternoon picnic/barbacue Hodson Bay. Please bring your own food for the picnic/barbacue. We hope to see you there.
- A welcome development on Lough Ree this summer has been the marking of the navigation into Derry Bay, Inny Bay and Portlick Bay. The Channels north of Inch Turk and south of Inch More are marked and the system is continued into the mouth of the River Inny. We understand that a small amount of work remains to be done to complete the system so proceed with caution for the moment. New markers have also been installed in the Galey Bay/Dog Island area. Reports of confusion at the Cruit Point marker are being checked so again, proceed with caution. Work is progressing on the new Harbour development at Lecarrow so it has been a busy year on Lough Ree for the OPW. Its



Thanks for the Memory

Athlone Branch have a limited number of copies of Thanks for the Memory by Harry Rice for sale at £15.00 each. Thanks for the Memory will always rank as one of the classics of the River Shannon. It is the story of the Shannon told in his own inimitable style by one who loved the river and devoted many years to exploring it and delving into its fascinating history and folklore. The book is not only a guide to the past, but the detailed information and charts drawn by Harry himself following many hours of painstaking surveys are indispensable to those who wish to explore the river in depth. The book was first published in 1952 and was reissued in a limited edition by Athlone Branch I.W.A.I. in 1974. There are only a small number of this collectors item remaining and this is the last opportunity to get your own copy. Contact Sean Fitzsimons, Seans Bar Athlone 0902 2358

D.D.S./C. M.

Dublin Dinghy Scramble and Canoe Marathon takes place on Saturday 4th October. Sponsorship is by Tennents Lager and there is £645 in prizes. Entry forms and information from Noel Murphy 01-611711 or 01-987163, or Joyce Waterhouse 01-831942 or Sheila Byrne at 021-871731

Brown Bread

14 Oz Brown Flour  
2 oz Plain White Flour  
1 level teaspoon bread soda  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 tablespoon sugar (brown is nice)  
½ pint butter milk or fresh milk and water mixed.

Sieve all dry ingredients except brown flour and mix into brown flour. Add milk and stir, the mixture should be like porridge. Line the bottom of a loaf tin with greaseproof paper and grease bottom and sides of tin. Place mixture in tin and cook for 45 minutes approx., in a fairly hot oven, 200° C or 425° F.

Offaly Branch End of Season Get-together - Hot Buffet at Moorhill House Restaurant Saturday 25th October at 8pm (Bank Holiday Weekend)  
Tickets £8.00 -(childrens reductions)  
Ring Ollie or Jean Toner 0506-21395 for reservations before 23rd October.

N. B. If required Offaly Branch will be glad to collect you at your moorings at the Thatch, Rahan or Tullamore Harbour.

National Waterways Award

Congratulations to Leighlinbridge on the Barrow on winning this years Bord Failte Waterways Award complete with £300 and a two week holiday for four on any waterway Irish or European. Kindly sponsored by Emerald Star Line. Nice!

Inland Waterways Literary Awards

The Harry Rice Cup and Ships Log Competition

The closing date for receipt of entries for both these competitions is October 31st

Eligibility Harry Rice Cup - Confined to juveniles. An account of a trip on our inland waterways  
Ships Log - Open competition - Extracts from your log.

NORE NEWS

Kilkenny City, on the River Nore, is one of the cleanest and most attractive urban areas in Ireland. In fact, it won the National Tidy Towns Competition in 1985. Now the Kilkenny people have even more reason to be proud, for the major discharges of both municipal sewage and industrial effluent into the river have ceased, and all waste is being pumped to the huge treatment works at Purcellsinch, on the outskirts of the city. The River Nore is now cleaner than it has been for many years.

(More news continued)

From the 1930's sewage was treated in a septic tank at Maudlin Street, which has long been rendered obsolete by a rapidly increased population. All effluent has been ending up, untreated, in the river. By 1975, when Smithwick's Brewery, Fieldcrest Textiles, the Co. Council and the Corporation agreed a joint scheme for effluent treatment, things were reaching crisis proportions. 1979 saw the completion of the treatment works at Purcellsinch; and 1985 the provision of new pumping stations at Market Yard, Maudlin Street and Duke's Meadows. The end of this year should see a trunk sewer in the Pocke Valley to the west, should complete the scheme. Here indeed is a caring city of actively concerned people. River towns of Ireland, please take note!

In brief: Just heard that the breach in the weir at Lower Ballyellen on the Barrow has been fixed, and that the repaired lock gates should be back in position before the end of the month, so that the waterway will be open again for a bit of Autumn cruising before we all go home for the winter.

Dog-Gone?

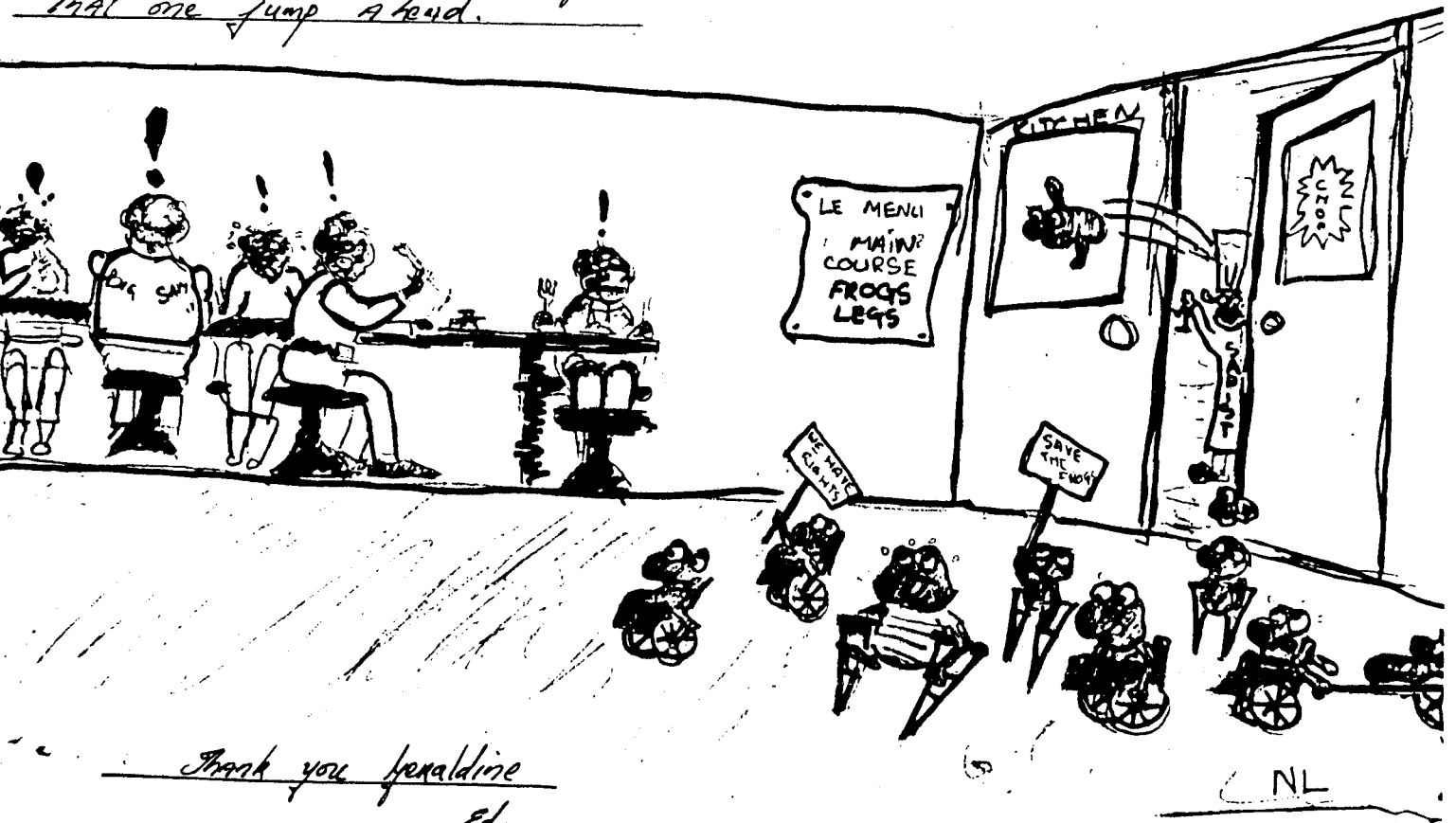
Found, white terrier with brown markings at Coosan Point. A ships dog perhaps Enquires to Ed. 0902-74275

For Sale

- 1) Freeman 22 £4,500
- 2) Nu Turr Range would suit a barge J.Crean 0902-51504



Living proof that barrick stays that one jump ahead.



Thank you Geraldine  
Ed.



# ATHLONE AERIAL

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

November 1986

## A.G.M. 1986-87

The Annual General Meeting of the Athlone Branch will be held on :-

Friday November 7th at 8.30 pm.  
in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel

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### Agenda

Minutes  
Matters Arising  
Reports  
Election of Branch Officers  
Election of Aerial Committee  
Election of Shannon Boat Rally Committee  
A.O.B.

Your attendance would be appreciated.

A cheese and wine and black pudding reception will precede the meeting at 8.00 pm

--oOo--

Its AGM time again folks and again we are appealing for more active participation in branch affairs by more members. We make this appeal every year but still all the work falls to the same few people. There is lots of work to be done and posts to be filled, but if enough people take part it makes the job much easier for everybody concerned.

The posts to be filled are Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. We also need volunteers for Aerial Committee, Quayside Development Committee, and Rally Committee. The Shannon Rally will be run on Lough Ree this year so, much of the organisation will be done by Athlone based committee members, so we need your help. The Quayside Development has started but there is still much work to be done in the co-ordination and fund raising areas to complete phase 1, not to mention getting the Museum project underway or mending punctures on the earthmover.

The Aerial Committee write, edit and dispatch this vital organ of the branch each month and are always seeking new contributors to keep the newsletter fresh and interesting, why not give it a try? There are other projects on jetties, developments, work ins, pollution control, IWAI Council etc, so now is your chance to get involved in any of these areas.

To entice you we have organised a Cheese and Wine reception for 8.00pm on Friday 7th November in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel to be followed at 8.30pm by the AGM.

--oOo--

### End of Season

Athlone Branch ran a very successful end of Season Rally on the last weekend in September. The weekend started with a most enjoyable buffet and dance in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel, where good music, plenty of spot prizes and enthusiastic participation by those present made the somewhat small

On Saturday 13 boats assembled at Coosan and motored and sailed to Portlick Bay via the newly marked Napper Rock channel to anchor in good sheltered water at Annagarragh point. Most of the skippers were not familiar with this area, so being brought in Company was a most useful exercise in opening up this area to more private boats. All went ashore for a short walk, as far as Manto's pub, and back before lifting anchor to sail back to spend the night at SGS Marina.

On Sunday, the fleet travelled to Hodson Bay where the barbacue was set up for a communal meal on the quay wall. Somebody put too much wine in the sauce, and the meal developed into a sing song, much to the amazement of the golfers and day trippers, in fact a new group was formed, the 'Hodson Hasslers' with Sam and Nora on guitars, Noel on accordeon, Reggie on the bones and everybody on the wine.

The weather was very kind, with a fair share of sunshine and no rain over the weekend which was far too short for all concerned.

### Dublin Scramble

Dublin Branch ran their Scramble on Saturday 4th October with 17 canoes and 6 dinghys taking part. While the entry may have been small, the event was enjoyed by all the participants and feedback in the Lower Deck was encouraging for larger entries next year.

The canoe event was won by Ian Pringle, and the dinghy event was won by Robert Michael and Dan O'Donnell of Howth Yacht Club who promptly presented their £100 cheque to the City of Dublin Lifeboat. Nice one Howth, and well done Dublin Branch.

Wanted - National 12 Sailing Dinghy, details to Robin Baird

Auburn, Glasson Athlone  
Tel: 0902 85109

### Guacamole, or how to feed 6 people with 2 Avocados

This is a specialty dish from Mexico and makes 2 Avocados go a long way.

1 level teaspoon salt	¼ level tsp black pepper
1 level teaspoon made mustard	2 level tsp caster sugar
6 tablespoons lemon juice	2 tablespoons lemon juice
2 ripe Avocados	3 tomatoes, skinned and chopped
4 spring onions, finely chopped	

Put salt, pepper, mustard and sugar into a small bowl and blend in the oil, and lemon juice.

Cut the Avocados in ½, remove the stone and scoop out the flesh into another bowl.

Mash it with a fork until smooth.

Mix in the dressing at once as the Avocados will discolour if left, and add tomato and onion.

Serve on small plates with a leaf of lettuce as a starter, or on its own as a dip.

### The Night to Remember

An evening full of linets wings. I had a cold plate. The 8.30 start happened at 10.00 but nobody complained. It was that sort of a night. Christy and Kay Deasy welcomed all the arrivals, you have to be up early to catch the Galway people. You heard of course they bought the new boat designed by a famous name to be modified by Christy. She's a steel drop keel sailer guaranteed a good home and endless travel.

The English anglers stood 4 square against the bar corner having decided to make a stand against the growing waterway dribblers. Later at the buffet the Yeahs carried the night with the cold plate. There was the Tracy table and the Dwan table and the Andy Fitz table and the Furlong

The difference of opinion as regards the fresh fruit salad and the Sherwood forest Gateaux was decided in the dwinkle of an eye. There's great soakage in pud, Ah! Sean. Robert Porter a great name, nice to see you Willie and Eve Watson.

To the music of the Evergreens amidst loads of spots, our thanks to the organisers Sean and Bridie. Probably the only hitch or lack of one during the night was the confusion of the male fraternity as to where to water the horse.

#### Sympathy

On behalf of the Chairman and Membership of the Athlone Branch we extend deepest sympathy to Mr. Michael Doyle and family on the recent death of his Father.

#### Thanks

Many thanks to the Aerial Staff - Damien Delaney, Sam Herraghty and Louis Sleator and in particular to Rosemary Furlong for our Cook book and Rosaleen Miller for our Southern News. Thanks Gill for the typing and Sean Fitzsimons for our distribution. Finally, we very much appreciate the help and facilities given us by Mr. Sloan and Mrs Pickett of the Jolly Mariner.

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AGM FRIDAY 7th NOVEMBER

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# ATHLONE AERIAL

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

December 1986

The next Branch Meeting will take place;  
Monday 1st December, 8.30 pm Seans Bar

Agenda:- Minutes  
Matters Arising  
Quayside Development  
Finance  
A. O.B.

Its the start of another year folks and we have a brand new Aerial Committee who, while we might not have a page 3 centrefold, we do hope to keep you abreast of the news and views of the branch and beyond.

Looking back at 1985, the more negative aspects were (1) the weather, of course which did little to encourage extensive boating (ii) the continued insist ence by the ESB to place marginal cost saving ahead of public safety and the environment; (iii) the proposed new Canal Bye Laws which seem to be structured more to prevent rather than to encourage use and enjoyment of these great amenities.

However 1986 wasn't all bad and some of the more positive aspects were (i) The extension of the navigation marker system into Derry Bay, Inny Bay and Portlick Bay by the OPW and their progress with the harbour extension at Lecarrow; (ii) the culverting of the breakwater at Portrunny by Roscommon Co.Co., (iii) The provision of 4 rubbish bin containers, 2 at Hodson Bay, 1 at Lecarrow and 1 at Portrunny, organised by the branch; (iv) The examination of the Shannon Flooding problem by our sub-committee and the subsequent publishing of John Weavings report which, to us, offers the most practical solution to date; (v) Our participation in 3 very successful boat rallies, at Whit, End of Season and the Shannon Boat Rally; (vi) The planning and organising of our Quayside Development project and the progress made to date on phase 1 which will provide trees, seating, lighting, a water tap and barrier wall on the quayside in front of the castle.

Our thanks to all the people who served on the various committees during 1986, and to those same stalwards who, along with some new faces attended the AGM and so willingly volunteered their time and everyy on the various committees for 1987.

## A.G.M. Election Results 1986

Branch Officers	Chairman	Damien Delaney
	V. Chairman	Declan Walsh
	Secretary	Ruth Casey
	Treasurer	Sean Fitzsimons
	Hon.Auditor	Reg Redmond

Aerial Committee .....Declan Walsh, Rosemary Furlong, Damien Delaney  
Robin Baird, John Dingle, Rosaleen Miller.

Shannon Boat Rally Committee.....Sean Fitzsimons, Eileen O'Brien, Louis Sleator, Andy Fitzsimons, Sam Herraghty, John Dingle, Nuala and Denis Treasy, Damien and Bridie Delaney.

The closing date for this competition which is open to all entries has been extended to 31st December 1986.

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### Athlone Sub Aqua Club

Athlone Sub Aqua Club held their AGM in the Jolly Mariner on 10th November. The officers for 1987 :-

Chairman	Don Carr	Diving Officer	Derry McMahon
Vice Chairman	David Dixon	Comp. Officer	M. Walsh
Secretary	Gertie Walsh	Training Officer	Donal Boland
Treasurer	Bridie Delaney	Equipment "	Sean Nolan & Paul Walsh
		PRO	Louis Fleming

Pool Training has started at Athlone Swimming Pool on Sunday mornings at 11.30 and new members are welcome.

### Cook Book Corner

First I must apologise for an error in the November Aerial, the avocado recipe. The third item should read 2 tablespoons of oil not 6 of lemon juice. Actually I find that a couple spoonfulls of French Dressing or mayonaise work just as well.

### Hollandaise Sauce

2 egg yolks  
1 tablespoon lemon juice (or vinegar)  
1 tablespoon hot water  
1 oz butter  
3 tablespoons cream approx.

Liquidise the lot and cook over a low heat until it thickens. N.B. do not allow to boil or you will get scrambled egg. If it curdles add another spoon of cream, and stir madly.

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FOR SALE 1 Gas Cooker, 2 rings with grill and oven ....R. Furlong  
0902 75075

2. Echo Sounder  
Seafarer 5. Three years old, little used £30 John Corry  
c/o 0902 4126

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Letter taken from Westmeath Independent Newspaper 21/11/86

CONGRATS I.W.A.I.

Dear Editor,

I am a regular visitor to Athlone by Boat, So I was delighted to see your newspaper article last week on the facelift being carried out by the Inland Waterways Association to the Docks area.

My business takes me abroad quite a lot and I have noticed how other people appreciate their rivers.

In other countries rivers are treated as a focal point of their towns, while we seem to literally turn our backyards to them.

The scheme envisaged for the Docks area will now turn this extremely old part of the town into a very relaxed area, combining all the facilities including the castle.

Full support for this scheme should be given and I personally look forward to spending many happy hours there in the future.