



The Inland Waterways Association of Ireland
presents

‘Highways to Leisureways’



The Development of the Waterways of the island of Ireland



**Lough Neagh
Discovery Centre
Oxford Island
CRAIGAVON
Thursday 13
October 2005**

*A conference on the Inland Waterways-
Past, Present and Future*

Highways to Lesiureways

The Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, 13 October 2005

PROGRAMME

- 09.00 **Registration**
- 09.30 **Conference Assembles**
- 09.45 **Official Opening**
- 10.15 **Patricia Gilbert, Ferguson McIlveen**
Ferguson McIlveen is an award winning, multi-disciplinary, design consultancy that have successfully completed a number of Waterways Projects in Nth. Ireland.
- 11.00 **Restoring the Royal Canal, John McKeown, Regional Manager Waterways Ireland.**
A decade in restoration the Royal Canal is now nearing completion and Waterways Ireland will be reporting on progress on this significant project.
- 11.45 Coffee
- 12.15 **The Ulster Canal – A modern day challenge**
Colin Becker, Ulster Canal Group, IWAI
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.00 **Regenerating the Thames**
Ms. Eileen McKeever, Thames Waterway Manager
- 14.45 **The Boyne Canal, a community action project**
Michael Kinahan, IWAI and Ed Wheeler, An Taisce (Boyne Canal Action Group)
- 15.30 **Dublin City's Canals and their position in Urban Re-Development**
Councillor Michael Conaghan, former Lord Mayor of Dublin City Council
- 16.00 **The establishment and role of the Mourne Heritage Trust and other partnership initiatives in Northern Ireland.**
Ross Millar, Director of Leisure Services, Craigavon Borough Council
- 16.30 Closing Address - Brian Cassells, *President IWAI*

Pre-Conference Dinner

There will be a Dinner in the Seagoe Hotel, Upper Church Lane, Portadown on the evening prior to the Conference with John Fletcher, Chairman Inland Waterways Association, UK and Wales as the keynote speaker. See attached booking form for details of the dinner.

Booking Form

PLEASE RETURN TO ADDRESS BELOW

Name of Person/Organisation:

Please reserve _____ places at *The Highways to Leisureways Conference*

Name _____	Name _____
Address _____ _____	Address _____ _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
email _____	email _____
Special Dietary Needs _____	Special Dietary Needs _____

Please attach additional sheets if more space required.

Conference _____ @ €150 or £100 per person (€40\ £30 for current members of IWAI.)

Dinner _____ @ €55 or £40 per person

The Dinner and entertainment will be held in the Seagoe Hotel, the Hotel is offering a special room rate of £65 per room including breakfast per room night for conference attendees. Additional accommodation is also available at the Carngrove Hotel.

Hotel Contacts: The Seagoe Hotel
 ROI – (048) 3833 3076 **NI** (028) 3833 3076 email: info@seagoe.com

 The Carngrove Hotel
 ROI – (048) 3833 9222 **NI** (028) 3833 9222

Return Booking Form to:

INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND 25 Ellesmere Avenue NCR Dublin 7

Enquiries to:
Gregory Whelan – 353 (0)1 8682609
Email: Liaison@iwai.ie

About the Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI)

The IWAI is a voluntary body of waterways enthusiasts, founded in 1954. It was formed to promote the development, use and maintenance of Ireland's navigable rivers and canals. When the Shannon was almost totally undeveloped for pleasure boating, the IWAI fought the building of low bridges, thus ensuring the development of the river as a national asset. Later the IWAI successfully fought the threatened closure of the Grand Canal in Dublin and has done much to instigate the improvement of the Barrow and to focus interest and activity on the restoration of the Royal Canal, the Ulster Canal and other closed navigations. The IWAI is the respected voice of the waterway user, lobbying and advising national and local government authorities as well as other bodies on all matters connected with the waterways including pollution and future developments.

What we do

- Campaign for services & facilities
- Work in harmony with local groups such as An Taisce, local Chambers of Commerce, Community Development Associations.
- Seek to restore navigations
- Work with similar organisations to promote safety afloat
- Provide work parties
- Seek to engage with Government both Nationally and Locally

Who are our members?

Our membership is organised across the country, North and South in seventeen branches. Every member is affiliated to a local branch and each branch is represented on the national Council. The branches are:

North: Lough Erne, River Bann and Lough Neagh, Coalisland, Lagan and Newry.

South: Athlone, Barrow, Belturbet, Carrick-on-Shannon, Corrib, Dublin, Kildare, Lough Derg, North Barrow, Offaly, Shannon Harbour, and Slaney.

Over 4,000 active members comprising family and single member memberships. Our membership is drawn from a variety of waterways enthusiasts- boaters, anglers, walkers and those interested in the heritage of the waterways. The organisation has no fulltime personnel and is administered by a voluntary executive committee.

Publications:

The IWAI publishes "Inland Waterways News", a quarterly magazine, sent out free to all members, which brings local events, activities and developments into national perspective. Some of the branches bring out local newsletters. Our web site at www.iwai.ie is packed with waterways--related information.

Conference Location

The Lough Neagh Discovery Centre enjoys a unique and beautiful setting on the edge of the Lough where visitors can learn all about the history, the culture and wildlife in and around Lough Neagh. The Lough Neagh Discovery Centre has been recently refurbished and opened in May 2005.

Lough Neagh Discovery Centre

Oxford Island

CRAIGAVON

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