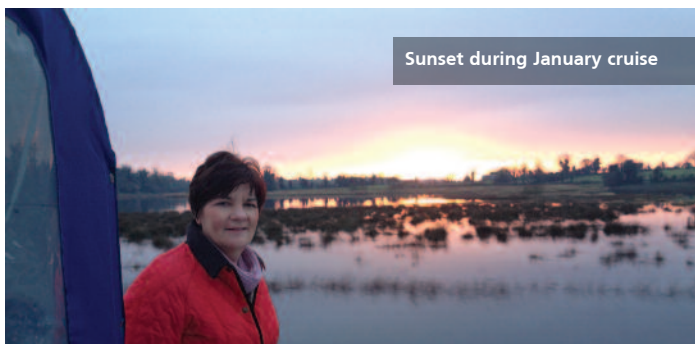
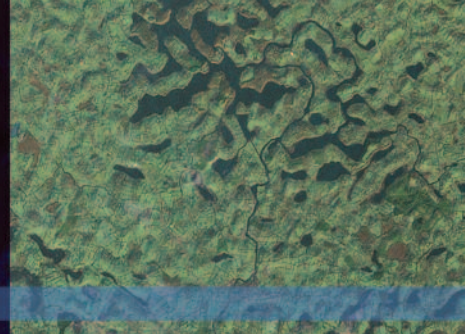




BELTURBET BANTER

FROM BRENDA DEVINE



Sunset during January cruise

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Once again we have teamed up with other branches in the northern region to try to minimise any clashes of events. This has proved to be very helpful in the past year enabling branches to support each other – there are some very interesting events planned for 2014.

DEVELOPMENTS

As reported previously in other issues we have been very disappointed in the lack of progress with the town jetty and associated work. We don't like to labour a point and the inclement weather has probably not helped the situation, but Belturbet members are getting a little tired of waiting. That said, we have been promised that at last the scheme is good to go, and by the time you receive this issue of IWV the work will have been started. Alongside this we also need to see the new Service Block progressed, although there has been some objection to the build. Surely this can be overcome and WI identify funds to get going. Belturbet has been patient but are getting somewhat annoyed at seeing other developments in what seem to be underutilised jetties – Aghalane to mention one. Belturbet is a great place, and deserves some time and effort into making it better.

BRANCH EVENTS

Since we last went to print we held our AGM at the beginning of November with the same committee returning for another year in office. Also in that month, we had our Annual

Dinner Dance in the Seven Horse Shoes Hotel, which was well attended with all dancing the night away again to the sounds of Adam's Rib – thanks again Sharon and Tommy. At the Annual Dinner we held a raffle and auctioned goods and services kindly donated by the members. Belturbet Branch then agreed to increase the funds raised to a total of €1000 which will be presented to the RNLI.

For quite a number of years now, Sean McCaffrey has organised a day cruise between Christmas and New Year however, this year, it was held mid January and we had a great turnout and enjoyed a cruise to and from Gaeglum. We had a fantastic sunset on our return journey and finished the night in Flynn's Bar, Kilconny. This was very welcoming and great food was supplied by Anne Nolan – much appreciated Anne!! Again we cannot thank Sean enough for planning this cruise every year and thanks go to all the members who support it.

MAIN ERNE RALLY

Our main rally this year will be held on the weekend of the bank holiday in June (30 May - 2 June). Commodore Kinney – YES – our very own Chair is Commodore this year and is currently planning his event with the Rally Committee. Knowing CK, he will be organising a few wee surprises along the way. So get your calendars set and join us on this the 49th Erne Rally.

50TH ERNE RALLY

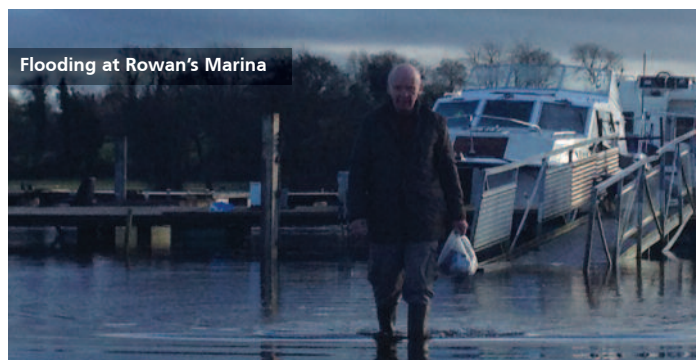
2015 will see both Belturbet and Lough Erne Branches celebrated the 50th Erne Boat Rally – what

an achievement. A sub-committee has been working away in the background to make this a memorable event with plans to have joint commodores. We are looking forward to hearing the itinerary unfold. However, sadly, Erne Branch lost one of its members and a great supporter of the Erne Rally – Paddy McGuinness RIP.

AND FINALLY

We have also had our first branch meeting of 2014 and confirmed our events for the year. It is this time of year that boaters everywhere plan to get their 'tubs' serviced, spruced up and looking good for the season ahead. Wishing all IWV Branches a great boating season – have fun and remember your safety measures on and off the water.

Photos: Brenda Devine



Flooding at Rowan's Marina

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