



DUBLIN DRIBBLES



FROM MICK FARRELL



End of the line for Naomh Éanna
Photo: Mick Kinahan



Graving dock being cleaned for Naomh Éanna

RALLY TO END ALL RALLIES?

Planning is currently underway for the Dublin Rally 2014. Unfortunately matters have been greatly delayed by the Bye-Laws Consultation saga and as I'm writing this, Colin is inking the printing plates. A number of anniversaries have to be celebrated this year, including but not limited to: (we'll celebrate anything...we will....)

IWAI 60th, Dublin Branch 50th, RCAG 40th, Dublin Rally 30th, Opening of SEW 20th (told you...and we needed a 20), Boyne Branch 10th

To try and highlight the potential of the canals and to demonstrate some of the 'flaws' in WI's proposed amendments we would ask as many as possible to make the trip this year. Given the condition of the navigations, it will take some effort on your part, but it is our intention to coordinate with the canal branches and local communities on both Royal and Grand and we hope to try organise a few little 'non-events' to keep yis busy en route from the Barrow or Shannon. Kildare, who have an anniversary of their own this year, and Offaly Branches have already shown interest. Shannon Harbour will undoubtedly do us proud with their Rally on the return journey and the Power Boat Branch have committed to the 'Main Event'. As usual we'll be linking up with the Phizzfest and 'Scones not Stones' groups on the run into Dublin.

Waterways Ireland have again decided to benefit from the presence of rally boats in GCD and are once again holding their Summer Festival during the middle weekend of the Rally and our 'Main Event' will see a parade of boats (with sparkly lights) overnighting on the Liffey on the former DDDA jetties. It may also be the only weekend Effin Bridge lifts on offer this summer for anyone doing a *Green and Silver*.

All in all, it's likely to be a rather VIBRANT couple of months, courtesy of local IWAI branches and volunteers, and may be your last chance to attend a Dublin Rally in Dublin as if these proposed changes come to pass, next year's will more likely be in Athlone....!!

NAOMH ÉANNA

From the *Naomh Éanna* Trust on Facebook: We have just been talking to Waterways Ireland about the developments that have happened in the last few months. The ship itself has become a major hazard for everyone involved as she is taking on water through her decks.

The graving dock at the eastern end of the basin are being opened now and next week the *Naomh Éanna* will be towed into the dock to be dismantled in the next two weeks. Although she is still afloat at Charlotte Quay, both businesses have vacated the ship and she is now without power and Waterways Ireland have taken her over from her owners.

For us to save her, we would need to meet the €100,000

costs of Waterways Ireland by next week and then get permission from NAMA who are managing the graving dock in order for her to stay in drydock until repairs can be carried out. Insurance would also need to be placed on the ship immediately and with no survey we won't get any insurance.

Unfortunately it looks as if our efforts over the past nine years have failed and she will meet her end in the coming weeks. Some items will be salvaged from the ship and kept by the Nautical Trust and ourselves as a reminder of the once great ship that served so many islanders for so many years.



Engine room on Naomh Éanna
Photo: Niall Galway

EFFIN BRIDGE LIFTS

As we go to press, dates for this year's Effin Bridge lifts, are still not finalised between Irish Rail and WI, but we hope to have them on the Dublin Branch web site very shortly. Likewise the rally application form and details of events en-route to and during the rally itself. Please keep a close eye on dublin.iwai.ie for all the latest information.