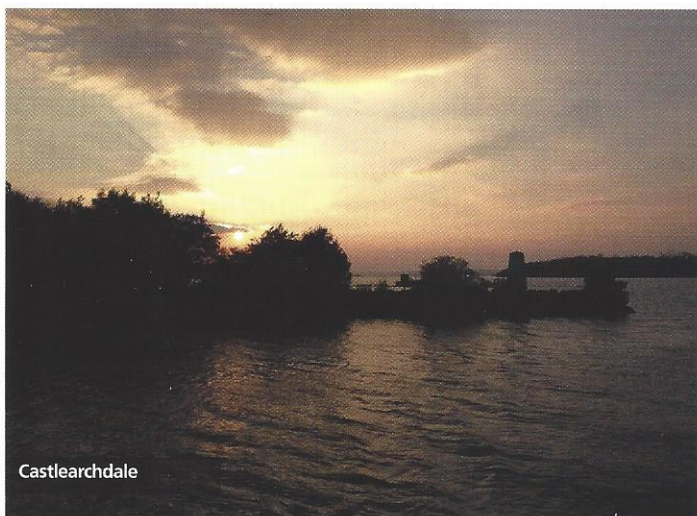
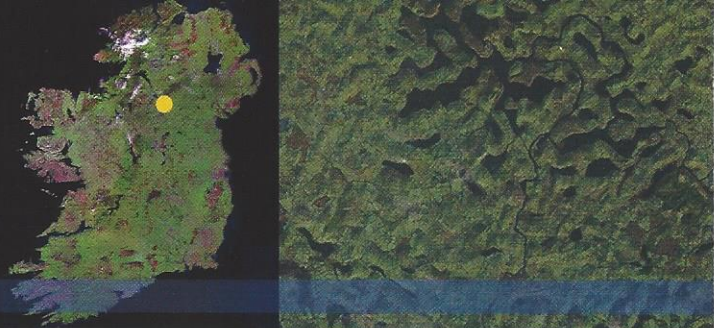
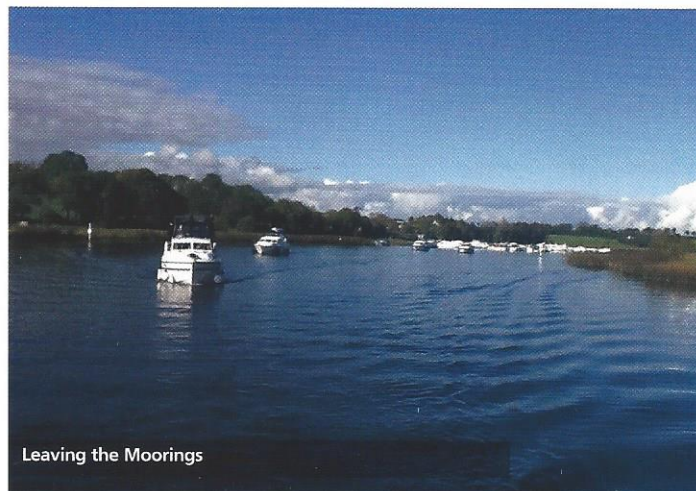


# BELTURBET BANTER

FROM BRENDA DEVINE



Castlearchdale



Leaving the Moorings

It's hard to believe that the boating season for 2014 is nearly over; however, Belturbet Branch have really enjoyed their boating this year.

## IMPROVEMENTS / DEVELOPMENTS

During the year we did see some developments which have greatly improved the moorings at Belturbet with the replacement of the old town jetty. However, we are still waiting on this work to be fully completed as we need this jetty joined to the existing Waterways Ireland jetties. Not only would this provide additional moorings, it would also make it safer for boaters and create a lovely walkway along the waterside. So come 2015, rest assured that Belturbet Branch will continue to lobby Waterways Ireland and Cavan County Council for the much needed Service Block and for the joining of these jetties.

This year the branch bought a marquee which was a great purchase and it was put to the test when it was erected for Matt Brady's barbecue in July. We plan to make more use of it during 2015. We also purchased additional banners giving information about how to join IWAI and we have displayed these in some new places along the waterways. We also replaced some old ones around Belturbet.

Every year the town of Belturbet holds its festival and this year the branch teamed up with the

festival committee to hold a flotilla to the town. This was a great success and a good way of promoting the waterways.

## LOUGH ERNE MINI RALLY

To finish off his commodore-ship of the Erne Rally, Cathal Kinney's Mini Rally was held at the beginning of September. The Rally opened on the night of Friday 7 Sept with a marine themed fancy dress at Carrybridge. There were plenty of Pirates, Popeyes, Olives, First Mates and Captains on parade. The craic was super and the music provided by Carrybridge was just brilliant; a great band.

Next morning in beautiful weather we headed to Castlearchdale via Devenish Island. Pearl and the team at Castlearchdale made us feel very welcome, providing food and music. Commodore then led the fleet to a stop off at Killihelvin Hotel for a game of skittles.....some new rules were brought into the game which made it very interesting. Commodore's final salute was taken just past the hotel when the boaters sailed by, lowering their Erne flags. We finished the rally back in Belturbet at Flynn's Bar and again we were well fed.

## LATE SEASON RALLY

As we had such a great time at The Moorings in Belnanaleck last year, we decided to return and were not disappointed. We had

a fabulous hot buffet for a tenner a head, thanks again Danny for welcoming us back. However, getting to the Moorings was not helped by a dense fog making the cruise a little trickier but glad to say we all made it safe and sound.

Commodore again made us think with his usual blend of cryptic quizzes. This time it was 'cars in the movies' – very good fun indeed. Our late season event also remembers Moss Quealy (RIP) a much missed member of the boating community. Moss's daughter, Bernie O'Reilly and her daughter

Odette presented the Moss Quealy Memorial Trophy to Gerald and Doreen Mackerall from *Donald Goreen*, who were just over the moon and so surprised to be presented with such a prestigious trophy.

## AGM AND ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

We will finish the year with our AGM on 7 Nov and Annual Dinner Dance on 22 Nov in Belturbet, and finally Sean McCaffery's Christmas cruise.

So until 2015, best wishes to all IWAI members and friends. See you on the water.

**Photos: Brenda Devine**



Bernie & Odette present the Moss Quealy Memorial Trophy to Gerald and Doreen Mackerall