
INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND NEWSLETTER

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Diary dates

Feb	26	IEI lecture, 'Timber in Irish construction from the earliest times to the present' by James J Harrington.
Mar	14	RPSI lecture, 'E M Patterson in Ireland' by Charles Friel.
Mar	24	IHAI AGM, Anna Liffey Mills, Lucan, Co Dublin.
Mar	26	IEI lecture, 'Sydney through an Irish Engineer's camera' by Walter Raftery.
May	16-18	World Canals Conference.
June	1-3	Field trip to Co Donegal.
June	20-21	Third Island of Ireland Mills conference, Strabane, Co Tyrone.
June	23-24	SIHS summer field trip, Scottish Borders.

IHAI events are in bold and are detailed below. Talks organised by the Institution of Engineers of Ireland Heritage Society start at 8pm, 22 Clyde Road, Dublin 4 (tel 01-6684341). The Railway Preservation Society of Ireland talks take place in Belfast; for details, tel 048-9335 3567 (24 hours)

A belated prosperous new millennium to all members! Once again, thank you for supporting the IHAI over the past year. Which means, of course, that subscriptions for 2001 are now due and a **renewal form** is enclosed. Please return this to our treasurer Dan Hurst (27 Churchview Drive, Killiney, Co Dublin) a.s.a.p. so he won't have to go chasing you!

Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM takes place on Saturday 24 March at Anna Liffey Mills (aka Shackleton's Mill), a short distance east of Lucan on the north bank of the Liffey. Our thanks to Fionnuala May, Conservation Officer with Fingal County Council for making the premises available to us.

As reported in the August *Newsletter*, Fingal Council purchased this massive complex for £3.75m and their plan is to redevelop it as a visitor amenity. Hopefully a substantial proportion of its contents will be retained as it is now the only water-powered rolling mill left in Ireland which still has its original plant and machinery.

The AGM gives you a unique opportunity to see around the mill prior to its imminent restoration. There will be a tour of the complex at 2pm (don't forget your camera!). The actual business meeting starts at around 3pm - an agenda, map and Committee nomination papers are enclosed. The latter should be returned to Mary McMahon, our Secretary, by the indicated date (ie not on the day!). Please feel free to raise any matters relating to industrial heritage in general and the role of the IHAI in particular under 'any other business'.

As the site isn't served by train or bus, those without a car may require a lift - contact Ron Cox to make arrangements (tel 01-6082544; e-mail rcox@tcd.ie).

World Canals Conference

The Inland Waterways Association, in association with Waterways Ireland, is hosting a major conference on canals and navigable inland waterways on 16-18 May. This year's theme is 'Living Heritage' and will consider different approaches to the restoration, management and development of waterways in light of the conflicting requirements of economic development and heritage protection.

Although based in Dublin, this international event includes a special train excursion to Belfast and Lisburn on the 17th and optional canal tours on the 15th (Dublin) and 19th (Shannon).

For full details and an application form, contact Conference Partners Ltd, 96 Haddington Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 (tel 01-6677188, e-mail info@conferencepartners.ie). The cost is IRE220, excluding optional tours and accommodation. But hurry if you intend to go - numbers are strictly limited to 200 and are going fast!

Spring field trip to Co Donegal

This will take place over the weekend of 1-3 June and will be based either in Letterkenny *or* Stranorlar/Ballybofey (depending on hotel availability). Make a date in your diary and watch out for more details in the next *Newsletter*.

Third Island of Ireland Mills conference

Following the success of conferences at Coalisland and Cork, NGCS is organising another on the theme of mill regeneration, this time at Strabane, Co Tyrone, on 20-21 June. The format is a tour of mills in the locality on the first day, then a series of talks on the second. If you'd like to present a paper on any aspect of mill conservation, contact the organiser Nigel Grizzard immediately. He's at Oakwood House, 637 Roundhay Rd, Leeds LS8 4BA (tel 0113- 2497488; e-mail NGrizzard@aol.com).

Having been on two of these conferences, your editor can recommend them highly as they give an insight into the problems and potential of mill reuse and who's doing what.

SIHS field trip to Scottish Borders

Those who were on the Wexford field trip last year will recall that we were joined by members of the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society. On June 23-24, the SIHS is organising its own summer tour and will focus on the Borders. All IHAI members are welcome to attend. For further details, contact Fred Hamond (address at end).

IHAI autumn seminar, 2000

This took place on Sat 11 November last in Louth County Museum, Dundalk, on the theme of *NE Ireland's Industrial Heritage*. The six speakers were: Prof John Byrne, 'Sir John Macneill, architect and engineer'; Dr Ron Cox, 'Mitchell's screwed piles'; Ewan Duffy, 'The railways of NE Ireland'; Claire Foley, 'Scheduling the Newry Canal'; Dr Michael Gould, 'Belfast truss roofs'; Canice O'Mahony, 'Manisty's foundry, Dundalk'. The IHAI plans to publish all these papers later this year, along with those from the 1998 Tullamore Conference. Our thanks to museum curator Susan O'Connor and all her staff for making us welcome, laying on refreshments and the excellent lecture facilities.

Incidentally, if you haven't seen the Museum's industrial gallery, which recounts Dundalk's industrial progress, it's well worth going out of your way to do so!

Keep the faith!

Rob Goodbody represented the IHAI at the general meeting of a new European federation which was held in Thessalonika last October. This not-for-profit organisation, which uses the acronym E-FAITH, (European Federation of Associations of Industrial and Technical Heritage) has just been established with the following aims:

- To promote research, study, recording, conservation, development, management, and interpretation of industrial and technical heritage (ITH);
- To promote co-operation between affiliated associations through the exchange of information, development of projects of mutual interest, and the organisation of awareness-raising events;
- To ensure that all levels of European institutions and their governing bodies attach the same importance to ITH as to other aspects of European cultural life;
- To co-operate with other organisations involved in heritage protection;
- To promote institution events at European level that contribute to the improvement of the image of ITH and the enhancement of these objectives;
- To stimulate associations across Europe;
- To support existing associations by ensuring that their problems and concerns are brought to the attention of various European institutions.

Membership is open to associations which are actively pursuing some, or all of these activities. A website has been established and can be found at <http://www.e-faith.org>. It is intended to publish an annual newsletter.

A sub-committee has already been established to draw up a code of ethics and practice. Issues such as public safety on industrial heritage sites and the sale of items from such sites will also be addressed. A draft will be presented at the next meeting in Freiberg, Germany, in 2001.

Mary McMahan

Ulster Waterways Group conference 2000

Each year the Ulster Waterways Group has concentrated on a specific waterway for their annual conference. The theme for their third conference, held in Lisburn on 20 October, was the Lagan Navigation.

This was a fitting location because of the work currently in progress on a section of the navigation in the town. Lock 12, which is on this section, now forms a special feature alongside the new Lisburn Borough Council offices at the Island site. The decision to restore and re-water this section was a visionary one because the Council could have decided just to leave this infilled stretch of waterway as it was, a much less costly option. This would have created a considerable obstacle to any future restoration of the navigation. By carrying out this work they have pointed the way to looking afresh at the feasibility of restoring the entire navigation between Belfast and Lisburn. The construction of the Lagan Weir and the subsequent Waterfront development at the Belfast end have also opened up the potential of the River Lagan in Belfast and created a non-tidal stretch of river up to Stranmillis. The restoration of the navigation would open up the Lagan corridor which already has public footpaths along its banks.

An engineering study has been carried out which demonstrates that restoration of the entire navigation from Belfast to Lough Neagh is a practical proposition. The section now absorbed into the M1 motorway could be by-passed by upgrading the channel of the river from Lisburn to near Moira where it could link back to the original line from Moira to Lough Neagh by a short stretch of new canal. As well as restoring the existing locks, the works would also involve constructing seven new locks, six new weirs and eight new bridges. It would therefore be a costly scheme, but one which would bring great benefit to the Lagan corridor.

Waterways Ireland, one of the cross-Border implementation bodies which took over all Ireland's navigable waterways on 1 April 2000, has no function in restoring waterways other than continuing to investigate the feasibility of restoring the Ulster Canal. Any actual work would have to be undertaken by the State in which the waterway lies. In Northern Ireland, disused navigations are the responsibility of the Department of the Environment's Rivers Agency. The Environment and Heritage Agency would also have a role in monitoring the protection of the heritage in any restoration scheme. Once restored, the Lagan Navigation would then transfer to Waterways Ireland.

In addition to the work carried out by Lisburn Borough Council, Castlereagh Borough Council has recently purchased the lock-keeper's cottage at Lock 3, Newforge. Craigavon Borough Council has agreed to play its part in any planned reinstatement of the Lagan Navigation, so the goodwill of the councils is there.

It is hoped that the enthusiasm expressed for the restoration at the Ulster Waterways Group's conference will lead to further feasibility studies into what is obviously a worthwhile undertaking.

Ruth Delany

Heritage Council publication grants

Anyone contemplating an industrial heritage publication will be interested to know that up to 50% financial assistance may be forthcoming from the Heritage Council. Keep an open eye for the Council's advert in national newspapers in November inviting applications. To maximise your chances, the text must be substantially complete and due for publication in 2002. However, given the large number of applicants, there is no guarantee of success! Contact the Heritage Council for further details (tel 056-70777).

Muckross House railway archive

The Trustees of Muckross House, Killarney, have recently brought together a large collection of photographs relating to the railways of Co Kerry. Photographers include Dermot McCarthy, Richard Casserley, Patrick O'Sullivan, and Julian Peters. For further details contact the librarian at Muckross House (tel 064-31440; e-mail mucros@iol.ie).

DOE(NI) Heritage Service update

During the millennium year, 2000, Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) has been actively involved with a number of major projects within the industrial heritage sector.

Statutory protection through scheduling has been extended to the entire length of the Newry Canal. This is the most extensive scheduling ever undertaken in Northern Ireland. Built in the late 1730s and early 1740s, it was opened in 1742 and is the first true summit level canal in the British Isles - ie, it went up one side of a hill, crested the summit and descended the other side. The scheduling has been introduced to ensure that, in all considerations of the future of the waterway, the built heritage merit is to the fore.

Also, following a decision by Belfast ship builders Harland & Wolff to concentrate their fabrication and repair operations around the massive Belfast building dock, and their plans to redevelop the buildings and sites which they have vacated, EHS was invited to consider which buildings and structures they considered worthy of statutory protection. In a joint operation involving scheduling or listing, as appropriate, the most important features have been selected for protection. Included within the 'schedule' is the site of the slipways used in the construction of the famous 'Titanic' (and her sister ships Olympic and Britannic), and also the Hamilton, Alexandra and Thompson Dry Docks. Added to the 'list' are the former H&W Administrative and Drawing Office building, and the Pump House located between the Alexander and Thompson Dry Docks. Other buildings and structures were considered for statutory protection but, although of some considerable historic and/or engineering significance, they were not considered special enough to list or schedule.

Carrickfergus Gasworks advanced to an important new phase following the announcement of a major offer of grant

from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a considerable grant from EHS. These grants have enabled Carrickfergus Gasworks Preservation Society to commence the main phase of works on site. The Society, together with its core of dedicated members, is to be congratulated on the obvious success of all its hard work to date and wished every success for the future.

Finally, the millennium year has also seen the establishment of a contract to catalogue the McCutcheon Collection. This important collection of industrial heritage related work was amassed in the 1960s and '70s and led to the production of *The Industrial Archaeology of Northern Ireland*, published in 1980. When completed, by 2003, the contract will have facilitated public access to the collection, through the Monuments and Buildings Record held at 5-33 Hill Street, Belfast.

Michael D A Coulter, Environment & Heritage Service

Europe - Culture of Bread

The above organisation is based in Paris and has four main objectives:

- ◆ To bring together researchers, teachers, grain-flour-bread professionals, institutions, museums, and bread lovers.
- ◆ To build up a stock of data by encouraging research and comparative study of grain growing, milling, cereal grains, bread and its substitutes.
- ◆ To inform the public by organising meetings, study trips, exhibitions, publications, presentations, and school programmes about bread and health.
- ◆ To share in the pleasures of bread with all-comers.

The group produces a newsletter (150Fr/ year) and organises a number of European events with a bread-related theme. Of particular interest is the proposed international colloquium on *Millstones and Milling*. This will take place in Spring 2002 at La-Ferté-sous-Jouarre, and will focus on the production of the world-famous millstones of this region (known as French burrs). For future information, contact Mouette Barboff, c/o Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 6 Rue Meynadier, 75019 Paris (tel/fax 0142034969; e-mail barboff@msh-paris.fr).

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Reviews

ROSS ISLAND AND THE MINING HERITAGE OF KILLARNEY. William O'Brien. 2000. Galway: Department of Archaeology. £4.50 (incl p&p). ISBN 0-9535620-1-X.

This booklet presents the results of a programme of research undertaken by UCG's Archaeology Department into copper and lead mining at Ross Island, on the shores of Lough Leane. This locality was worked sporadically from Bronze Age times (c.2000 BC) up to the 1900s. Minor workings at Crow Island, Cahirnane and Muckross are also noted as well as the prehistoric method of extracting and smelting the ore. Ross Island now forms part of Killarney National Park and the (flooded) mine is accessible to the public. This copiously illustrated and well presented publication is obtainable from Dr Matthew Parkes, Geological Survey of Ireland, Beggars Bush, Haddington Rd, Dublin 4. Details of various publications by the Mining Heritage Society of Ireland are also available from Dr Parkes (tel: 01-6041493; e-mail: matthewparkes@gsi.ie).

READERS' CHOICE

Supposing you had to choose the ten most significant industrial sites in Ireland (including N Ireland). By 'significant', I mean a site which, in your opinion, demonstrates some key aspect(s) of the country's industrial development (however you want to take this!). By 'site', I don't just mean an individual building but also groups of buildings, structures (eg bridges and dams), or even an entire road, canal or railway line. A site can even extend to a major collection of documents, artifacts or machinery no longer in their original locations. The only proviso is that all the physical evidence must still exist, ie demolished sites are excluded.

Readers are invited to submit their 'top 10' sites to the editor (address at end). Please also state why you think them of significance. Provided there are enough entries, I'll compile a list for eventual publication in the *Newsletter*.

PORTLAW, COUNTY WATERFORD 1825-76: Portrait of an industrial village and its cotton industry. Tom Hunt. Dublin: Irish Academic Press. ISBN 0-7165-2722-7.

Think of a mill village, developed by the owners of a mill for the purposes of housing the mill's employees and Bessbrook or Sion Mills, both in Northern Ireland, come to mind. However, there is also the village of Portlaw in Co Waterford.

Whilst primarily a social history, this book should be of interest to the IH enthusiast, describing as it does this mill village established by the Malcolmsons, a mercantile family with a wide range of business interests, including shipping, involvement in the Waterford & Limerick Railway (to such an extent that they had their own private toilet facilities at Fiddown, the nearest station to Portlaw!), and a cotton mill in Portlaw.

The book describes Portlaw and its development from the period prior to the arrival of the Malcolmsons and their Quaker ideals, through the successful establishment and expansion of the cotton mill and associated industries. It culminates in the firm's bankruptcy in 1876, caused by world recession, a fall in the price of cotton and difficulties in the family's other business interests.

Ewan Duffy

RAIL VERSUS ROAD IN IRELAND 1900-2000. Michael Collins. 2000. Newtownards: Colourpoint Press. STG£14.00. ISBN 1-898392-37-4.

This book charts the ascendancy of road transport over railways by examining the bus fleets operated by the railway companies, the main road bus operators and how rail vehicles were specifically developed to meet the challenge of road competition. A well researched and comprehensive work.

THE LMS IN IRELAND: an Irish railway pictorial. Mark Kennedy. 2000. Leicester: Midland Publishing. STG£12.99. ISBN 1-85780-097-4.

In 1923, when the railway companies of Britain were forced by the government to amalgamate, the newly formed London Midland & Scottish Railway became the largest railway company in the world. It inherited the Midland Railway and the London & North Western Railway.

The bulk of this book focuses on LMS operations in the north of Ulster. Through its Northern Counties Committee, the company worked the broad- and narrow-gauge routes of the former Belfast & Northern Counties Railway (acquired by the Midland in 1903) and narrow gauge lines of the Co Donegal Railway (operated jointly with the Great Northern). This network flourished in the 1920s and '30s, but with increasing competition from road traffic it was forced to diversify into haulage and bus services, to the detriment of its core activity. In 1949 the N Ireland section of the LMS was transferred to the publicly-owned Ulster Transport Authority whilst its Donegal operations were absorbed by CIE in 1971.

Using contemporary photographs, Mark Kennedy, a staff member of the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum, introduces us to the diversity of LMS operations: main- and branch lines, stations and halts, engineering sheds, locos and rolling stock, as well as the company's road, shipping and air operations. He also covers the former LNWR lines in the Republic - the

Dundalk, Newry & Greenore line in Co Louth, and the company's station at Dublin's North Wall (Euston-on-Liffey). His very accessible text succeeds in making this book of interest to railway specialists and the general reader alike.

IHAI publications

Copies of *Taking Stock of Ireland's Industrial Heritage* (£5.50 incl p&p) and *Power from Steam* (£6.00 incl p&p) can both be ordered from Wordwell, PO Box 69, Bray, Co Wicklow (tel 01-2862649).

For those of you with **Internet access**, keep abreast of events on our Web page, courtesy of Robert Guinness (Straffan Steam Museum) and Cormac Scally. Our address is www.steam-museum.ie/ihai or www.steam-museum.com/ihai. If all else fails, use an engine (eg www.google.com) to search for 'IHAI' (PS try searching for your own name as well - you might be surprised!).

If you've found this *Newsletter* interesting, it's thanks to Ron Cox, Michael Coulter, Ruth Delany, Ewan Duffy, Rob Goodbody, Mary McMahon and Barry O'Reilly for their articles. Make it even more interesting by making a contribution yourself! The next issue goes out in May and all copy should be sent to the editor Fred Hamond at the address below by end of April. Reviews and notices of all industrial heritage publications and events will be especially welcome. And ... please don't forget to send me a list of your 'top 10' industrial sites.

IHAI Committee, 2000-2001

Note the phone code changes for N Ireland members.

- ◆ *President:* Ron Cox, Centre for Engineering Heritage, Museum Building Trinity College, Dublin (01-6082544; e-mail rcox@tcd.ie).
- ◆ *Vice-President:* Norman Campion, Inver, 1 Kilgobbin Rd, Sandyford, Dublin 18 (01-2942981).
- ◆ *Secretary:* Mary McMahon, 77 Brian Rd, Marino, Dublin 3 (01-8334709; e-mail mcmahonmary@eircom.net).
- ◆ *Treasurer:* Dan Hurst, 27 Churchview Drive, Killiney, Co Dublin (01-2854640).
- ◆ *Membership Secretary:* Dermot McNamara, 95 Bulfin Rd, Dublin 8 (01-4535827).
- ◆ *Web site:* Cormac Scally, 114 Marlborough Park Central, Belfast 9 (048-90209735; e-mail cscally@nationwideisp.net).
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CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE OFFICERS

If you have any queries relating to the recording and protection of the industrial heritage of your area, the following local authority officials may be able to give advice:

Carlow: Mairéad Phelan, Conservation Officer, Carlow CC, County Offices, Carlow. Tel (0503) 70300; fax (0503) 41503; e-mail secretar@carlowcoco.ie

Cavan: none.

Clare: Majella McGuire, Heritage Officer, Clare CC, New Road, Ennis, Co Clare. Tel (065) 6821616; fax (065) 6828233; e-mail cmcguire@clarecoco.ie

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Cork County: Louise Harrington, Conservation Officer, Cork CC, County Hall, Carrigrohane Rd, Cork. Tel (021) 276891; fax (021) 276321; e-mail kcelocc@iol.ie

Donegal: none.

Dublin City: Susan Rountree, Conservation Officer, Dublin Corporation Planning and Development Department, Block 4, floor 3, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8. Tel (01) 6796111; e-mail dublinc@iol.ie

Dublin City: Donncha Ó Dúlaing, Heritage Officer, Dublin Corporation, Planning and Development Department, Block 4, floor 3, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8. Tel (01) 8723184/ (01) 8723800/(086) 8150063; e-mail donncha.odulaing@dublincorp.ie

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Dublin - Fingal: Fionnuala May, Conservation Officer, Fingal CC, County Hall, Swords, Co Dublin. Tel (01) 8905000; fax (01) 8905079

Dublin - South Dublin: Sonia Reidy, Conservation Officer, South Dublin CC, PO Box 4122, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Galway City: Jim Higgins, Heritage Officer, Galway Corporation, c/o Town Hall Theatre, Woodquay, Galway. Tel (091) 770596; fax (091) 561641, e-mail jhiggins@galwaycorpo.ie

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Galway County: Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Forward Planning Section, Galway CC, County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway. Tel: (091) 509000, extn 209; fax (091) 509033; e-mail mmannion@galwaycoco.ie

Kerry: Una Cosgrave, Heritage Officer, Kerry CC, Áras an Chontae, Tralee, Co Kerry. Tel: (066) 7121111, mobile (087) 2652201, fax (066) 7122488, e-mail unacosgrave@eircom.net

Kildare: none.

Kilkenny: none.

Laois: see Offaly.

Leitrim: Bernie Guest, Heritage Officer, Leitrim CC, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim. Tel: (078) 20005, fax (078) 21023

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Longford: George Clabby, Heritage Officer, c/o Westmeath CC, County Buildings, Mullingar, Co Westmeath. Tel (044) 40861; fax (044) 42330

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Meath: see Louth.

Monaghan: none.

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Tipperary South Riding: none.

Waterford: Cecily Johnson, Conservation Officer, Waterford CC, Civic Offices, Davitt's Quay, Dungarvan, Co Waterford. Tel (058) 42822; fax (058) 42911; e-mail secretar@waterfordcoco.ie

Westmeath: see Longford.

Wexford: none.

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Compiled by Barry O'Reilly