#### Your



## **Cruising the Shannon and** a visit to Dublin's Canals

Dudley Bennet, Dianne Stark and Lynne and Steve Brompton spent a week in June cruising the Shannon River down the centre of Ireland.

With magic weather, ever-friendly Irish folk, fascinating history and beautiful scenery, it was a wonderful experience.

Both couples also explored varying parts of the Royal and Grand Canals around and out of Dublin, and will share their experiences and impressions at the upcoming meeting — to be sure!

# e-Newsletter — Spring 2018 edition

#### A new era as we commence daytime meetings

The first of our daytime meetings will be held on October 22 at the Drummoyne Parramatta service: Parramatta 9.38, Rydalmere Sailing Club, 2 St Georges Crescent, commencing at 11am.

As well as plenty of parking at the Club, members can use public transport. Buses from the city are 7 minutes walk, with inbound buses 6 minutes awav.

For those wishing to travel by ferry it is a 15 minutes stroll from Drummoyne Wharf, with the 9.58, Meadowbank 10.11 arriving Drummoyne 10.39am. From Circular Quay 10.07 to arrive Drummovne 10.32am.

There is morning tea on arrival at the Club, with the meeting due to finish at 1.00pm.

Those wishing may stay on for lunch at the Club Bistro.

### **Postage Stamps**

Please continue to collect your stamps for the ACS to forward to the Shropshire Union Canal Society to assist in the restoration of their canals for the benefit of all who enjoy the opportunity of travelling on the inland waterways

Also at the meeting David Mitchell will bring us up to date on the subject of the new 'Marine Heritage Precinct' which is proposed for Wharf 7 Pyrmont, involving the National Maritime and Sydney Heritage Fleet including the South Stein. Also a mention of the expansion to Cockatoo Island.

#### Tell us what you want

The ACS exists for you, the members, so it is up to you all to let your committee know if we are heading in the right direction, and to let us know what you want both in the context of our meetings and other outings and in the information we pass on to you in these newsletters.

This e-newsletter has been sent to you in landscape (horizontal) orientation as we think this is the best form to display on your computer screen.

It is intended to publish it four times a year to inform you of our two day meetings, a 'coffee-time' outing in January and an outing midway between the day meetings. We will also send notices of any special information when it comes to hand.

What other items are of interest to you? Would you wish to hear of work being carried out by the Canal groups in the UK? For those ready to travel, do you want to know of canal closures, etc?

Let us know at the meeting of your wishes.

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Spring 2018

#### **30 Years of Canal Memories**

In May 1988 fourteen people with an interest in the canal systems in Britain and Europe met in a suburban home in Sydney, Australia to discuss and exchange their experiences on inland waterways.

From this small beginning the group, which named themselves The Australian Canal Society (ACS), outgrew a living room and have met quarterly ever since in a nearby church hall.

On Friday, May 4, 45 members and exmembers celebrated 30 years of ACS with a luncheon at the Watershed Kitchen overlooking Iron Cove at Drummoyne.



One of the original members, Helen Backhouse, cuts the cake watched by ACS President Jan Roden and Dudley Bennett

The cake celebrating 30 years of the ACS, depicting the Blue Lias canal side pub on the Grand Union Canal at Stockton, the venue for many Friends of the ACS gatherings between 1999 and 2015.







#### President's welcome

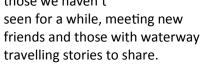
Welcome to a new chapter in the life of the ACS, our unique society with an inland waterways focus, and our special interest in canals around the world.

We have moved our main meetings from night to day and a beautiful new location with water views and good parking.

The location is brilliant, but its suitability and days of future meetings will be reviewed after talking with you at the coming meeting or hearing from you by email or phone.

The Sailing Club has the advantage of extending our gatherings with a lunch option in the Club's excellent Bistro. So there will be plenty of time to chat.

I am excited about this change to our evolving Society and look forward to continuing stimulating canal- linked conversations with long term enthusiasts, connecting with those we haven't



ACS meetings have always contained variety, where we have sought to both entertain and educate. With only two main meetings a year it is easy to find informative speakers to help us to be involved in the inland waterways world.

Come, bring a friend to the October meeting and to 'Canaltime Coffee' in January too.

Jank.

#### **DATES FOR 2019**

- \* Canaltime Coffee Friday January 18 . Lunch at Watsons Bay. Details by email soon.
- \* Excursion: August. Sydney Heritage Fleet tour
- \* Meetings late March and late October (dates and day of week after consultation with membership

Anything for inclusion in the Summer 2018-19 edition of this newsletter should be sent to lets-live-it @optusnet.com.au by December 8, 2018