



2012 Cruise Ships bound for Foynes

15th May 2012	Silver Whisper
14th August 2012	Adonia
16th August 2012	Le Diamant
4th September 2012	Le Diamant
21st September 2012	Amadea

Cruise Ship Silver Whisper scheduled for Foynes on May 15th 2012

SFPC Coffee Morning in aid of Milford Hospice

Many thanks once again to all who generously contributed to our annual Milford Hospice Coffee morning. The total amount raised was €2,550. Your donation will help Milford Hospice and Palliative Care continue to help terminally ill patients and their families. This year's fundraiser was supported by SFPC staff, port users, local businesses, members of the local community and the local Garda Síochána! Special thanks to Bewley's Coffee, Hunt Office, Kearney's Bakery, Reidy's Centra, Foynes Yacht Club and of course our own SFPC ladies for all their hard work in making this event a great success. Winner of this year's baking competition goes to Carmel McAvinue for her white chocolate & blackberry cheesecake - voted No. 1 by John Carlton!



Congratulations & best wishes to ...

- Alma Moran & Evan Egan on the birth of their baby boy Kyle.
- John & Deirdre McDermot on the birth of their baby boy Charlie.
- Kevin & Aine Murphy on the birth of their twin boys Daniel & Jack.
- Cyril & Karen Berry on the birth of their baby boy Aaron.
- Willie & Patricia Downes on the birth of their baby boy Liam.

Get Well Wishes to

Jackie Normile after his recent operation, wishing him a speedy recovery.



If you would like any items included in the next newsletter, please forward to :-
"PO Box Newsletter", Shannon Foynes Port Company, Mill House, Foynes, Co. Limerick or info@sfpc.ie



Shannon Foynes
PORT COMPANY

February 2012

SFPC Employee Newsletter

Minister Appoints New Chairman

The Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Leo Varadkar, recently appointed Michael Collins as new chairman of the Board and on behalf of the staff I wish Michael well in his new appointment and look forward to working with him and the Board in realising the many exciting opportunities that lay ahead for this Company. Likewise, I would like to thank the outgoing Chairperson Kay McGuinness and outgoing Directors Michael Adams, Rita McInerney, John Carr and Dick Sadlier for their commitment and contributions made to the Company during their term.



Kay McGuinness, former Chairperson, Pat Keating, CEO with Minister for Finance Michael Noonan TD during a recent visit to Shannon Foynes Port Company

Masterplan Vision 2041

Absolute need to increase arrival drafts at Foynes. The aforementioned was one of the key findings from the consultative phase of the Master Plan Vision 2041. This finding was further supported by 91% of participants stating that the "ports needs to expand". We had a tremendous response from all stakeholders and I would like to thank all those that took part. Eighteen written submissions were received, 31 online questionnaires were completed and together with the feedback received from the workshop sessions at Limerick, Foynes, Kilrush and Ballylongford we have received very clear informative feedback across the wide spectrum of interested parties. The next phase is to draft the masterplan incorporating the feedback from the consultative phase. We hope to have a draft available for public consultation in tandem with the draft of the Shannon Integrated Framework Plan in the latter half of 2012. There are many elements, as alluded to in the Issues Paper circulated in the consultation Phase, that need to be addressed in the Master Plan Vision 2041 and the future capability to service Panamax (and post Panamax vessels) at Foynes appears paramount. We are fortunate that there are options available to us and we have the deepwater necessary within the vicinity of existing facilities to address this objective. We look forward over the coming months of devising a Master Plan that will set the solid foundations to capture, over the coming decades, the enormous economic potential offered by the deep sheltered waters of the Shannon Estuary.

Other Projects

Shannon LNG has recently stated that it could invest up to €1 billion in its project at Ballylongford thereby providing enormous economic benefit to the Mid West Region. It appears though that the decision to invest is on hold due to the CER's ongoing consultations on tariff structure. The CER initiated consultation process is now in its 13th month with no decision forthcoming. While acknowledging this is a complex area of regulation but given the Governments priority to facilitate jobs and investment it may be opportune for the political leaders of the region to intervene. If this investment proceeds up to 800 jobs could be created in the three to four year construction phase alone. Other substantial projects include the ongoing exploration work at Pallasgreen where the promoter has spent circa €50m to date and is currently in the final stages of pre-feasibility. This project too has the capability of being an enormous contributor to the region's economy with, assuming the project is viable, an investment required of circa €500m. There are several other projects that we are engaging with, that are at a commercially sensitive stage, but give reason for a very bright future for Shannon Foynes Port Company.

Pat Keating, CEO



SEAPT

Seapt is presently preparing for its annual exercise to be held in County Clare on the 18th and 19th April of this year. The first day, a table top exercise will be carried out at Moneypoint Generating Station, setting up a response centre to an incident where oil lands at Brews Bridge, County Clare. The morning will develop response strategies from the Port Authority, Clare County Council, and ESB Moneypoint with input from Oil Companies, Irish Coast Guard, and Shipping interests. The strategies and interaction between the various interested parties will be developed and will, in the afternoon, lead to a strategy to be followed on the following day. We will also get input from Michael Walsh re media input, and Jack O'Sullivan, Pauline Beades, Simon Berrow (as environmental advisors to SEAPT). We will also ask Zal Rustom to attend and brief us on the management of such exercise situations with inputs from so many differing interests. We will run the model, access data on the fact that we are responding in shellfish waters, SPA and SAC. The second day will be on site at Brews Bridge. Food on day by Civil Defence. We will meet and brief at 1000hrs to 1100hrs, exercise from 1100hrs to 1300hrs and then recover equipment, eat and debrief finishing at 1430hrs. If OSCAR is used we will launch at Cappa and work from there. This is the first year we will have input for a wildlife response from Pauline Beades and her team. Seapt has recently been involved in Pollution incidents with Limerick County Council on the River Deel, and with Limerick City Council on two incidents on the upper Shannon.



MT Torm Anne & MT Priority at Labasheeda anchorage on 13th October 2011

Molasses Transshipment

Molasses transshipment from 09th October to 20th October 2011 under the agency of Mullock & Sons. Mt Torm Anne, Singapore registered tanker with a DWT of 44900mt, 180.55 LOA and arrival draft of 11.95m. She loaded 42,000mt molasses in Cape town, South Africa bound for the Shannon Estuary. As her arrival draft exceed the allowable draft for Foynes it was agreed to carry out 3 transshipments of cargo into smaller vessels to reduce her draft to 10.5m. She anchored at Labasheeda bay on 9th October 2011. The first vessel to go alongside her was the mt Zapadnyy - a Belize registered tanker of approx 3300 mt DWT and 78m LOA. She was scheduled to take two cargos, the first of which was 3000mt approx to be discharged at Foynes. While in foynes discharging this cargo the mt Priority went alongside the mother vessel at Labasheeda. Mt Priority is Limassol registered, 6450mt DWT and 103m LOA. She came from Liverpool and took a cargo of approx 4,600 mt. She sailed on the 14th October 2011 bound to Bordeaux. The Zapadnyy then returned to the Torm Anne for her second cargo of 2800mt of molasses, once loaded she proceeded seawards to Silloth, UK. The Torm Anne, with a now reduced arrival draft of approx 10m then came to Foynes and discharged 8000 mt of Molasses. In total almost 19000 mt of cargo was discharged from the Torm Anne. Given the weather conditions at the time were at times unfavourable the operation went very well aided in no small part by the Shannon Pilots and Crew of the Kerry Head. **Aoife Lenihan**

SFPC Website

SFPC has upgraded its website. The new site offers improved navigation and easy access to a range of information for port users and other stakeholders. The home page includes live shipping information as well as weather and tides. We hope this will be a valuable resource for all people interested in the port, whether it be shipping companies, traders or the general public who want to learn more about our activities. Contacting us is now easier with integrated messaging, and we will explore further enhancements including more active use of social media if our community feels this will be of value. Please do let us know any comments and suggestions about how we can improve our web presence (mmorrissey@sfpc.ie).



Frank Lynch

Frank Lynch retired from Shannon Foynes Port Company on the 28th October 2011 having joined on 28th September 1970 he served the company for a grand total of 41 years. Frank was originally head hunted from Sheehan's, a large Limerick based Engineering firm where he had a reputation as a talented draughtsman. Michael Hoctor, Harbour Engineer, was looking for someone with Frank's particular area of expertise (reinforced concrete) to help with the Shannon Airport Jetty construction project. Frank was taken on a short term contract but managed to extend it for a further 40 magnificent years and was involved in the survey work on the Estuary during the construction of both Moneypoint & Aughinish. In 1984 Frank moved into finance and over saw the transition of the company from Limerick Harbour Commissioners to Shannon Estuary Ports and finally to Shannon Foynes Port Company. Frank was appointed Company Secretary after the amalgamation in 2000. We wish Frank & his family every happiness on his retirement.



Frank Lynch receives a Waterford glass presentation from Kay McGuinness on the occasion of his retirement.

Capt. Alan Coghlan

Alan commenced his shipping career with Irish Shipping when he was eighteen. His first ship was the Irish Alder which he joined in Dublin and was bound to Vera Cruz in Mexico. Alan left Irish Shipping after 12 years to join Cable & Wireless working on a cable ship in Spain, fixing telecommunication cables on the ocean floor that connected South West Spain to America. Alan speaks fluent Spanish as a result of his years with Cable & Wireless. Alan returned to Irish Shipping in 1979 as Master. He served as Master for three years until he finally came ashore in 1982. He joined Limerick Harbour commissioners in 1982 on a year's probation and was appointed Assistant Harbour Master in 1983. He succeeded Capt. EK Donnelly as Harbour Master, Pilotage Superintendent & Collector of Rates. In 2000, following the amalgamation of Limerick and Foynes Ports, Alan was appointed Harbour Master & Pilotage Superintendent of Shannon Foynes Port Company until he retired in October 2011. Alan is the current President of the International Harbour Masters Association 2006-2012. We wish Alan and his family the very best on his retirement.



Assumpta Lynch and Patricia McGreal



Kay McGuinness making a presentation to Capt. Alan Coghlan on behalf of Shannon Foynes Port Company



Christina Wanders and Aoife Lenihan