



We are sad to report the recent death of Eamonn Cassidy. Eamon was Superintendent of Works when he retired in 1998, having joined Limerick Harbour Commissioners in March 1959 as Dredger Engineer. In that capacity he supervised the construction of the Dredger, "Curraghbour II", which was built at Liffey Dockyard in Dublin. Eamon was actively involved in many infrastructural projects in the Shannon Estuary, including works at Tarbert, Foynes Island, Foynes, Shannon Airport, Aughinish Island and Moneypoint and had an unrivalled knowledge of the facilities in the region. He also supervised the installation of a new crane and later a new engine in the "Curraghbour II" before retiring on his 65th birthday. We wish to extend our condolences to his wife, Margot, their daughters Jane and Sharon, and sons Andrew and Raymond.

Clem Casey, who died recently, was a member of the Limerick Harbour Commissioners from 1967 until 1997 and served as Chairman from 1993 until 1996. Clem was a popular figure in business and sporting circles and served as Mayor of Limerick in 1980 - 1981. His great passion was Young Munster Rugby Club, where he served as player and member. He also served as President of the North Munster Branch. One of his proudest moments occurred in 1993, when Young Munster beat St. Mary's of Dublin in the final of the All-Ireland League in a memorable match before 20,000 people at Lansdowne Road. Peter Meehan, who had captained Young Munster to their sixth (and most recent) Munster Senior Cup win in 1990, featured prominently in that match. Clem's connection with Young Munster has been maintained by his sons and grandsons.

Cruise Liners to visit Foynes in '09

- 18th June **Saga Rose**
- 18th August **Saga Ruby**
- 28th August **Prinsendan**
- 4th September **Athena**
- 11th September **Saga Rose**



We are sad to report the recent deaths of Niamh Coghlan, wife of our Harbour Master Alan Coghlan; Geraldine Naughton, wife of Director David Naughton and Bridget O'Sullivan, mother of Carmel McAvinue. We extend our sincere sympathies to their families.

**Congratulation to Liam & Aileen Ryan on the birth of their son Declan
And also to our Company Secretary Frank Lynch on the birth of his first grandchild Clodagh**

ISO 9001:2000 Certificate Renewal Visit

Paul Dunton will visit us on 24/25/26 June 2009.

Areas for assessment include :-

- 24/06/09 Management Systems, Commercial, Finance, Purchasing & Co. Secretary
- 25/06/09 Marine Operations, I.T., Port Services, Engineering & LCH.
- 26/06/09 Port Services, Engineering & Training.

Defibrillators

In a joint venture between SFPC and Foynes Port Users, 2 defibrillators have been purchased and will be located within the port area at

**SFPC Outdoor Canteen
Herriott House**

Both defibrillators will be in a prominent position and will be easily accessed in case of an emergency. As only trained personnel are permitted to use the defibrillators the following persons have been trained and they can be contacted as follows....

NAME	CONTACT
Hugh Conlon	069-73103 / 087 9067308
Ann Behan	069-73100
Jackie Belton	086-3405563
Sinead Ryan	069-65544
Pat Malone	087-2941970
Mark Walsh	087-6622301
Mike Murphy	087-9165797
Anthony Murphy	087-2582973

2008 marked a most definite turning point, unfortunately, for the worst, in many sectors of the Irish economy with our economic destiny determined by global events and exacerbated at home by the property bubble. With consumer confidence at levels comparable to the 1930's it is no surprise that the economic malaise has spread to almost all sectors of the economy. The port sector in turn, one of the key pillars for international trade, is at the coalface and its performance is closely correlated with economic performance. It is therefore against this economic backdrop that our performance is gauged and I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, SFPC recorded a very solid performance during 2008.

Tonnage throughput for 2008 was 10.8m tonnes (2007:11.1m) or a year on year decline of 2.3%. Given the prevailing economic conditions referred to above there were substantial fall off in trades in some sectors such as the construction. These declines, however, were mitigated by the robust performance experienced in the more defensive sectors such as energy and food production and together with our lack of exposure to the white goods sectors the Company actually increased its overall market share in the bulk market by 4%.

The Company spent circa €3m on upgrading its asset base in 2008. Just over €2m of this was on the Shannon 1, a custom built multipurpose maintenance vessel with dredge and towage capabilities. The Shannon 1 has already contributed significantly by maintaining advertised depths and so far obviated the need for the imposition of draft limitations. The Shannon 1 is also

available for third party hire and our engineering department are available to discuss potential synergies with prospective customers. With regard to 2009, we aim to continue investing in infrastructure and have planned for expenditure of circa €2m in primarily land based port infrastructure.

The Board has recently finalised the five year development plan 2009-2013. There are many challenging targets set and opportunities identified within the plan, including infrastructural development, estuarial promotional initiatives and increased trade prospects. It is noted also that some of the larger private investments such as Shannon LNG and AFSC have moved a considerable distance toward realisation. These are very exciting projects and emphasize our strengths and capabilities in serving large scale customers in the bulk liquid market while they confirm the important role Shannon Foynes Port Company plays in providing such critical national and regional infrastructure.

Finally I believe we are well positioned in terms of our experience, flexible and efficient service offerings and technical expertise to develop the business in servicing the trading needs of the region and despite the current economic gloom see a very successful future for the Company in the medium to long term.

**Pat Keating
April 09**

Endesa

As part of the process whereby the ESB has been required to divest generating capacity in order to stimulate competition in the electricity market, Tarbert power station has been acquired by Endesa (along with Great Island and two peat burning stations in the midlands). Endesa is a Spanish-based utility company with turnover of over €21 billion and operations in 13 countries covering all generation technologies from nuclear to renewables. Endesa plan to convert the Tarbert station to gas generation by 2012, continuing with oil imports until the changeover. It is also planned to lease some of the storage capacity to NORA, the National Oil Reserves Agency which maintains strategic stockpiles of fuel, which will mean ongoing imports, albeit at a lower level. SFPC management have concluded an agreement with Endesa to ensure support for the continuing operations from a marine perspective, and hope to engage further as they look to further develop the site in the future.





DML 4 at work in Foynes

New Hopper for Foynes

We are delighted to introduce our new dockside mobile hopper to the Port of Foynes. The addition of this hopper allows us to discharge 4 bulk cargoes simultaneously for the first time in our history. This increase in capacity further enhances the service we can provide to our customers into the future. The hopper was built by E. Buttimers Ltd. of Cahir and is rated at 1000 MT/hr.

Atlantic Fuel Supply Company Oil Terminal at Foynes

Terminal construction continues to proceed on-time & within budget. Jetty pipeline contract awarded to Foynes Engineering & work will commence within the next few weeks. Project expected to be up and running by August 2010.



James drops anchor!

After 30 years a pilot on the Shannon Estuary and just turned 60 years of age, James A Behan, retired last October 2008. James was the last member of the Behan family to pilot ships on the Estuary, ending a long history with the former Limerick Harbour Commissioners, Shannon Estuary Ports and now Shannon Foynes Port Company. During his times as a pilot James witnessed many changes to ships and the pilotage service. When he started the pilot boat was an ex RNLI lifeboat capable of 8 knots. The present pilot cutter, "LOOP HEAD" is a state of the art 20 knot vessel. Ship types and sizes changed out of all recognition in the intervening years. For the record the last pilotage for James was the Bro Globe from Foynes to Scattery on the 2nd October 2008. We wish James a long and happy retirement.

Bon Voyage to Willie Downes

Willie Downes retired from Shannon Foynes Port Company on 29th January of this year. We would like to thank Willie for all his efforts throughout his 30 years with us and to wish himself and his wife Patricia every health & happiness in their retirement.



SEA-PT Ltd. Pollution Exercise 2009 & Launch of OSCAR Dingle Harbour 20-21 April 09

SEA-PT Ltd. Exercise 2009

This years exercise took place on the 20th and 21st April in Dingle Harbour, County Kerry, a joint exercise run by Dingle Harbour and Kerry County Council under the auspices of SEA-PT Ltd.

The exercise involved an incident where a fishing boat ran aground at the entrance to the harbour, spilling 10 tonnes of diesel oil. The first day prepared the response and a table top exercise, setting up the response scenario with 30 members attending, in addition to Irish Coast Guard, Braemar Howells, IAC, and oil spill equipment suppliers. Also attending was Michael Walsh, PRO to SEAPT Ltd., and Dr. Jack O'Sullivan, Environmental consultant to SEAPT Ltd.

The second day was based on site in the Harbour, using the new SEA-PT Oil Spill Response Boat, OSCAR, and booms, skimmers, power washers and various other equipment supplied from the SEAPT Ltd. warehouse in Foynes. About 50 Responders attended from SEAPT Ltd. and other organisations. Food was supplied by Kerry County Council using Civil Defence.

The Exercise was preceded by the official launch of the SEA-PT/ICG pollution response boat, OSCAR, by Noel Ahern, Junior Minister of Transport, at the Marina in Dingle.

SEAPT Ltd. thanked all those attending and Kerry County Council, Dingle Harbour, and Brian Farrell, Harbour Master for the use of their facilities and support during the two days.



SEA-PTs Oscar preparing for exercise in Dingle Harbour



Tony Murphy, OSCAR and Eddie Murphy at launch.



L-R Brian Farrell Dingle Harbour Master, Vincent Hayes Pollution Officer Kerry Co Co, Eddie Murphy, SEA-PT, Minister Noel Ahern, Tony Murphy, SEA-PT, Hugh Conlon SEA-PT & Eugene Clonan Irish Coast Guard

Sea-pt's response to oil spill off South Coast of Ireland

On Tuesday 17th February 2009 SEAPT Ltd. was contacted by the Irish Coast Guard to supply oil pollution recovery equipment in response to an incident that occurred off the south coast of Cork.

The request was made to SEAPT Ltd. as the tug responding to the incident, Celtic Isle, was based in Foynes and SEAPT Ltd. equipment

would be on the scene much faster due to minimal delay in loading the tug.

Contracts for use were signed and the Celtic Isle left Foynes en route to the oil spill that evening with the required equipment on board. The equipment was then used on the following day to ascertain if it was possible to recover the oil at sea with limited success. After completing the test the equipment returned to Foynes on the Celtic Isle on the 24th February, where it was cleaned, repaired and returned to the warehouse.



Pilot Patrick Galvin

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Patrick (Paddy) Galvin on board as our new Pilot. Paddy was born in Kilrush, Co. Clare and moved to Belfast in 2000. He started life at sea with Arklow Shipping in 1992 as deck trainee and ended up his term as Chief Officer. In 2000 he moved to Larne to work with P&O as 2nd Mate and then Chief Officer. In 2004 he moved to Stena Line as Chief Officer & Captain before he departed for the Shannon Estuary on March 2nd of this year. Paddy will work as an Eastern Pilot on the Estuary and will work alongside Mark Sinnott, Dave Byrne & David Russell. We wish him every success with his new position.