

## Free Long-term Mooring

Birthplace of Antarctic Explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton, Athy is the perfect stop-off point for those traveling the Grand Canal or Barrow Navigation, as it sits on the intersection of both systems. In addition, it is the perfect location for those wishing to moor their vessels long-term. Not only does Athy boost two Slipways, a Dry Dock, a Fresh Water Supply and Pump-Out facility; but uniquely, it is not subject to the new Extended Mooring Permit (EMP) recently introduced by Waterways Ireland. The EMP, which costs €156, now applies to all boats mooring long-term on the Royal Canal, Grand Canal and Barrow Navigation. Athy's mooring facilities which lie just 400 meters north of the Grand Canal and Barrow Navigation meeting point are not subject to the new Bye-Laws as the navigable waters north of the Horsebridge to the town centre do not constitute part of the Barrow Navigation System. As a result, any boat owner wishing to avail of mooring facilities long-term, can do so free of charge in Athy.

For more information on all the amenities that Athy has to offer, please visit:

[www.athywaterways.com](http://www.athywaterways.com) or  
[www.facebook.com/athywaterways](https://www.facebook.com/athywaterways)

Alternatively, feel free to ring  
Cliff on 087-2061999 or  
Kathleen on 086-8979632



*"Spending most of my life at the 28<sup>th</sup> lock, I've always been amazed by the number of waterways users who are unaware that the waters north of the Barrow Navigation/ Grand Canal intersection are navigable. I regularly take my narrow barge up past this point and into waters historically used by the local boat-men running services to the onetime riverside industries and the bog. It's like simply stepping back in time"*

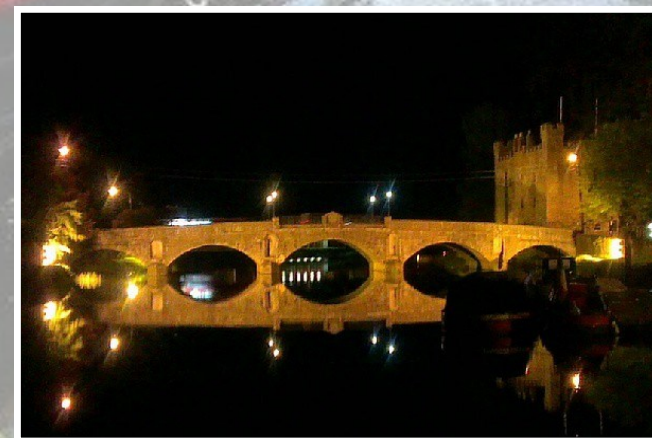
Kathleen Cross  
(Local Boating Enthusiast)



# Boating

In

**Athy,  
Co. Kildare**





*"We have a very active committee here locally when it comes to promoting our waterways. Members are regularly seen taking part in clean-up initiatives, festival organisation and the promotion of our assets for use by the boating, angling, historical and hiking Community"*

Barry Keatley

(Chairman North Barrow Branch IWAI)

## Athy

Having grown from a 12th century Anglo-Norman settlement, the town now with a population of 10,000 approx., rests nestled between the main arteries of the M7 and M9 motorways. This ideal positioning, coupled with a frequent Bus & Rail services has assisted Athy in attracting many large scale events such as the National Ploughing Championships to the area on numerous occasions in recent times. With a huge sense of community, Athy plays hosts to over 60 festivals/events throughout the calendar year, aided weekly by a healthy nightlife including internationally famous traditional music sessions and Fleadh's.

From a boating perspective, Athy boasts many assets, including:

- \* A dry-dock
- \* Exemption from the Extended Mooring Permit (EMP-€156)
- \* CCTV system on the floating jetty
- \* Pump-out facility
- \* Canal side drinking water
- \* A plethora of water based clubs & organisations
- \* Two boat slips
- \* Numerous waterways based festivals
- \* Free moorings & jetty
- \* Toilet facilities next to jetty
- \* Restaurants, hotels and B&B's
- \* A strong IWAI community
- \* Several hardware stores & suppliers
- \* Numerous garages and mechanics

*"Having moved my live-aboard to the town centre in 2008, I've found the community extremely welcoming to the concept. Not only are locals very eager to keep an eye on the boats moored, but the local Gardaí are extremely friendly and carry out regular foot patrols along the Barrow track. In essence, we've naturally built up a local neighbourhood alert system and since moving in, I'm glad to report that I've never experienced any problems"*

Cliff Reid

(Live-aboard Resident)

