

## Guinness Liffey Barge - on the Suir - Name Unknown - 1920s

30 June 2009

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In the not too distant past, these wonderful old barges plied the River Liffey in Dublin, taking barrels of Guinness from the brewery at St James Gate down river to be loaded onto the ships for export. The Killiney is pictured here near the Customs House. More pictures and information at [HBA Images of Guinness Barges](#) and [HBA Guinness Barges](#).

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When transport methods changed in the late 1950s, the barges became redundant and in 1961 the last barge was towed home. The boats themselves from that point on had a varied life. We know that some of them ended up on Lough Neagh as sand barges HBA Lough Neagh Sand Barges and two of them ended up on the Blackwater River inland from Youghal.

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Irish Ship & Barge Fabrication (ISBF) have surveyed the Clonsilla, Killiney, Vartry and Slaney on Lough Neagh with a view to regeneration, so we will once again have Guinness Barges on the Liffey. Take a look at their innovative plans for the boats at [Irish Ship & Barge Fabrication](#).

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Not quite underneath the arches, but close to the new Waterford Bridge near Grannagh on the River Suir, floats another piece of Liffey history. The name is unknown but she is definitely an ex Guinness Liffey barge. This is how she looked in May 2009.

Many thanks to Pat Kennedy for the photograph.

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Five years ago, Niall Galway, Brian Goggin and Michael Savage ventured aboard the same boat to examine and attempt to identify her.

Brian Goggin took these photographs.

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ISBFâ€™s elegant concept for a commercial regeneration of the Lough Neagh barges is shown here.

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Is there a future for the Suir Liffey Barge, a piece of floating heritage? 127 sq m (1300 sq ft) of boat would make a spacious floating home on the Shannon.

Here's what others have done with this amount of space.

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