

# 74M - GCC Canal Boat - Dublin 1936

25 September 2008

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## Technical Details

74M 2006

Reg Number:

74M

Built By:

Vickers (Ireland) Ltd

Year:

1936

Construction:

Riveted Steel

Length:

61' 6"

Beam:

13' 1.5"

Payload:

61 tons

Draft:

4' 5"

Weighed:

Killaloe 1936

**Engine:**

Bolinder E Type, 15 HP

Perkins 6354

**Home Base:**

Lough Derg

74M worked on the Canal, Shannon and the Barrow carrying general cargo until commercial traffic ceased in 1959. She was sold by C.I.E c1969 at the Shannon Harbour Auction and bought by New Ross Harbour Commissioners. After moving to New Ross, she was converted to a dredger with the cargo hold modified as a hopper and a hydraulic crane fitted on her bow. She worked for some time as a dredger in New Ross. Roadstone Ireland, Enniscorthy later bought 74M and used her to dredge sand on the Slaney.

After that she was operated privately by one of the Roadstone men who used her for dredging work in Wexford town. Matt Driscoll bought her around 1996 and transported her by road on a low loader to Banagher. She was moved then to Shannon Harbour and dry docked for about a year. During that time her bilges were re-plated and the hopper was taken out of the hold.

Gerry Oakman bought her from Matt and fitted a new engine. He owned her for a year or so and eventually sold it on to its current owners Cathy Dwane and Mark Becker. Over the past three years 74M has been transformed as part of its conversion to a pleasure craft.

**Crew included-**

Dick Kearney, Paddy and Willy Pender, Jim Gill, Tom Connolly, Jim (Seamus) Farrell, Willy Roche's and "Waxer" (Paddy) Dunne all worked on 74M at one time. In early 1940 the crew included "Banagher" Tom (Carroll), Joe Connolly Shannon Harbour was also deckman later on that year for a short time when he replaced Larry Daly who was out with a busted finger. That time Christy "Gent" McDermott was in charge Tom (Joe's brother) was engineman and Paddy McDermott was greaser.

