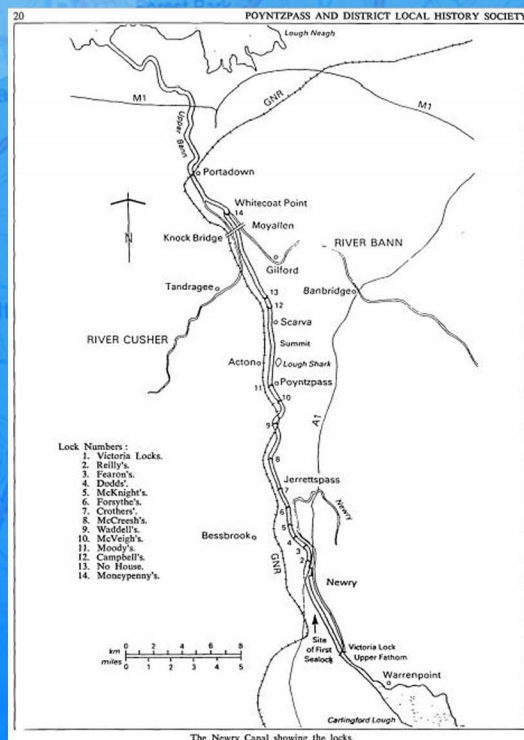


THE NEWLY BUILT CANAL BROUGHT PROSPERITY TO THE SETTLEMENTS ALONG ITS ROUTE, NEWRY BECAME A VERY IMPORTANT PORT AND POYNTZPASS AND SCARVA BECAME IMPORTANT DISTRIBUTION HUBS BETWEEN NEWRY AND PORTADOWN.

- 1949 THE INLAND CANAL FROM PORTADOWN - NEWRY WAS CLOSED
- 1956 "THE TOWN SECTION" OF THE WATERWAY WAS CLOSED
- 1974 THE NEWRY SHIP CANAL AND THE PORT WERE CLOSED WITH ALL OPERATIONS BEING TRANSFERRED TO WARRENPOINT.



TODAY THIS ONCE BUSY COMMERCIAL WATERWAY LIES DORMANT, HOME TO A PLETHORA OF WILDLIFE.

THE HORSES ON THE TOWPATH, PULLING THE LIGHTERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY PEOPLE FOLLOWING THEIR LEISURE PURSUITS.

CYCLING AND WALKING ARE THE MOST POPULAR ACTIVITIES AND THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE USING THIS ICONIC FACILITY INCREASES YEAR ON YEAR.

WITH A FOOTFALL FAST APPROACHING 300,000 ANNUALLY IT IS SURPASSED ONLY BY THE GIANTS CAUSEWAY.

THIS PROGRAMME IS PART-FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND THROUGH THE EU PROGRAMME FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION (PEACE III) MANAGED BY THE SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY.



NEWRY MARITIME ASSOCIATION JOINT VISIT TO ST JOSEPH & ST JAMES'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & POYNTZPASS PRIMARY SCHOOL.

THURSDAY 13TH MARCH 2014

In the presence of the
Lord Mayor of Armagh City and District, Councillor Robert W Turner.

Newry Inland Canal

This is the first summit level Canal to be built in Ireland and Britain. Construction began in 1731 and the 18 miles of waterway, from Newry to Portadown, with 14 locks was completed in 1742.



The Labourers who dug the channel for the Canal were known as "navvys". They provided their own tools and were paid the equivalent of three pence per day.

The Main source of water for the canal came from Acton Lake, Poyntzpass.