ASGARD: 1914 GO 1961

Thug *Asgard* a lastas gunnaí agus urchar i dtír i gCuan Bhinn Éadair an 26ú Iúil 1914 agus níor úsáideadh chuige sin riamh arís í. Sheol sí amach as Binn Éadair trasna Muir Éireann go Bangor i dTuaisceart na Breataine Bige mar ar cuireadh ar ghalláin í i mbádchlós A. M. Dickie & Sons. D'fhan sí ar stóráil ansin go dtí an bhliain 1927 nuair a áitíodh ar Molly Childers ar deireadh an luamh ab ansa léi a chur ar an margadh. Díoladh *Asgard* sa bhliain 1928 agus bhí triúr úinéirí eile ina dhiaidh sin aici sular cheannaigh Rialtas na hÉireann í sa bhliain 1960 mar bhád oiliúna do dhaltaí cabhlaigh.

Athchóiríodh an luamh le go mbeadh sí inseolta, agus rinne sí turas stairiúil ó Southampton go Binn Éadair agus chuaigh i dtír ansin an 30ú Iúil 1961. Roimpi i mBinn Éadair bhí báid de chuid na Seirbhíse Cabhlaí, sailbhe gunnaí agus foireann fáiltithe faoi cheannas an Uachtaráin Eamon de Valera, mar aon le baill d'Óglaigh na hÉireann a bhí i láthair nuair a tháinig *Asgard* i dtír i mBinn Éadair den chéad uair sa bhliain 1914. I láthair ag an searmanas sin chomh maith bhí Erskine Hamilton Childers, mac Erskine agus Molly, fear a raibh sé i ndán dó bheith ina Uachtarán ar Éirinn níos déanaí. Sheol an tUachtarán de Valera a bheannacht ar Molly Childers, a bhí ina cónaí i nGleann Dá Loch um an dtaca sin, agus ba iad seo focail dheireanacha na hóráide sin: 'the great event of forty-seven years ago, in which she and her gallant husband took so memorable a part, will never be forgotten by the Irish people'.

Ar chlé: *Asgard* ag filleadh ar Bhinn Éadair sa bhliain 1961.
Bord Choláiste na Trionóide Baile Átha Cliath.

Left: *Asgard* on her return to Howth in 1961.
The Board of Trinity College Dublin.

ASGARD: 1914 TO 1961

After successfully landing her cargo of guns and ammunition at Howth harbour on 26th July 1914, *Asgard*'s dramatic gun-running voyage was over. She sailed out of Howth and across the Irish Sea to Bangor, North Wales, where she was laid up in the boatyard of A. M. Dickie & Sons. She would remain in storage there until 1927, when Molly Childers was finally persuaded to place her beloved yacht on the market. *Asgard* was sold in 1928, and would have three further owners before being purchased by the Irish Government in 1960 as a training vessel for naval cadets.

Following a refit to make her seaworthy, *Asgard* sailed on a historic voyage from Southampton to Howth, arriving on 30th July 1961. At Howth she was met by Naval Service vessels, a salvo of guns and a welcoming group led by then President Eamon de Valera, as well as by surviving Irish Volunteers who had witnessed *Asgard*'s original arrival at Howth in 1914. The ceremony was also attended by Erskine Hamilton Childers, son of Erskine and Molly and a future President of Ireland. President de Valera sent greetings to Molly Childers, then living at Glendalough, and ended his speech with the words: 'the great event of forty-seven years ago, in which she and her gallant husband took so memorable a part, will never be forgotten by the Irish people'.

Ar barr, ar chlé: *Asgard* faoi úinéireacht phríobháideach sna 1950idí.
Le caoinchead Dèsirée Campbell.

Ar bun, ar chlé: William Tracy, duine den chriú a sheol *Asgard* go Binn Éadair, Iúil 1961.
Le caoinchead William Tracy.

Thuas: Baill de chriú Asgard le linn an aistir go Binn Éadair, 1961: Ó chlé.: 'Flatcalm' Flanagan, Joseph Deasy, fear neamhaitheanta, William Tracy.
Le caoinchead Commodore Joseph Deasy NS.

Top Left: *Asgard* in private ownership in the 1950s.
Courtesy of Dèsirée Campbell.

Bottom Left: William Tracey, one of the crew that sailed *Asgard* to Howth, July 1961.
Courtesy of William Tracy.

Above: Members of *Asgard*'s crew during the voyage to Howth, 1961: L. to R.: 'Flatcalm' Flanagan, Joseph Deasy, unidentified, William Tracy.
Courtesy of Commodore Joseph Deasy NS.