## IRISH METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

# Dewslettep

No. 7

May 1985

This issue of the Newsletter contains information about the summer outing and the Society's one-day meeting in September. Members are welcome to invite their friends to these outings.

Since the last issue of the Newsletter, two stimulating lectures were given to the Society. Dr. Aodhagan Roddy spoke on "Ice in the Atmosphere" on 12 April. A summary of this lecture will be published later. The fourth Annual Guest Lecture, "Studying the Fresh Waters of Planet Earth" was given by Professor James Dooge on 24 May. Both lectures were in Trinity College, Dublin.

Shane Tierney

President

## Summer Outing to Valentia Observatory

## Saturday 29 June 1985

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The visit will include a tour of the Observatory and talks by members of the staff on aspects of the work. The tour will commence in the morning in order to include a look at a radio-sonde ascent at 12.30 p.m. (1130GMT) and continue after lunch if necessary. Some people may wish to travel the day before, due to the distance involved and may require overnight accommodation. This can be arranged through the Society if enough notice is given.

So if you intend to be there please say: -

Do you need accommodation reserved?
Type (hotel or guest house).
Type and number of rooms.
Number of nights required and dates.
Any special requirements.

Meals may also be booked but this is not essential as there are a number of hotels and restaurants in the town and district. Please notify the Secretary - Irish Meteorological Society, Glasnevin Hill, Dublin 9 of your requirements by 18 June.

A short description of Valentia Observatory is on page 4.

## One-day Meeting Sunday 8 September 1985

## Grand Hotel Malahide Co. Dublin.

No programme of lectures is yet available but will be sent to members as soon as arranged. The morning lectures will be from 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and the afternoon 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Because some people may need to get away after the lectures, no formal dinner is being organised. Lunch in the hotel dining room is being arranged instead and the management will allocate part of the room for this purpose. Overnight accommodation at the reduced rate of £17.50 per person for bed and breakfast is being offered by the hotel to members of the Society and their friends. Please contact Mr. John McMahon at 01 450633 to avail of this offer.

A detailed notice of the day's activities will be sent to members when final arrangements have been made.

#### In the Future

Rule 5. The ballot to amend Rule 5 resulted in 42 in favour and 1 against. The new rule will take effect after the Secretary has notified the members.

Visit by Royal Meteorological Society. This visit will take place from 9th - 11th July 1986. A sub-committee has been set up to organise social activities. No details available yet.

### Valentia Observatory

Valentia Observatory derives its name from the fact that it was originally established on Valentia Island. Meteorological Observations were commenced on the island as far back as 1860 when the system of weather telegraphy was introduced by Admiral Fitzroy. The work was undertaken by Mr. R. J.Lecky, manager of the telegraphic station and the first report issued was for 8 a.m. on 8 October , 1860. These reports continued until 1867 when the Meteorological Committee of the Royal Society decided to establish an Observatory on the island. Accordingly, a dwelling house was rented and prepared for the installation of instruments, etc. This house was situated on the shore of the strait separating Valentia Island from the mainland at latitude 51°54′ N, Longitude 10°18′ W. Here, the Observatory routine was maintained until March, 1892 when the Observatory was transferred to its present site on the mainland at Latitude 51°56′ N. Longitude 10°15′ W.

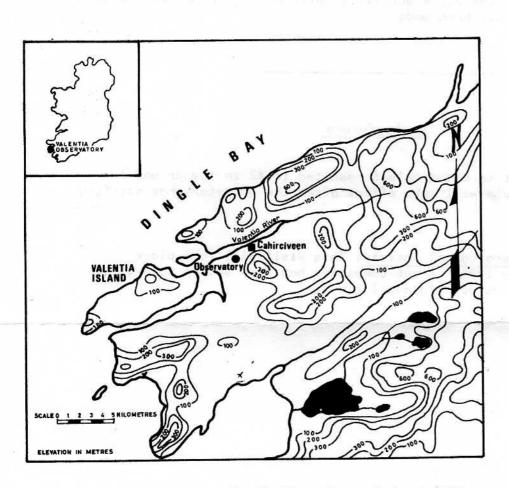


Fig. 1. Map showing the site of Valentia Observatory and its environs.

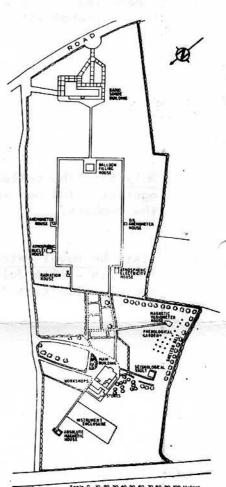


Fig. 2. General layout of Valentia Observatory