# *Boatyard: An Bádchlós*

*TRANSCRIPT:*

"The only place sea fishing can be taught is on the sea. Nobody would do it now – row out on a frosty morning, sit on that beam, covered in pure, white frost. That old, wet, damp going right up your back, straight through your oilskins."

"Fishing winter tides with long lines - men rose in the middle of the night, raked the warm embers of the fire to make tea, and scraped the frost off the beam. They would then row out into the dark Atlantic, carrying only a bottle wrapped in a sock, and a corner of scone for sustenance."

"Any hooks accidentally caught in a finger remained there until the men got home. Then they would push the hook through and out of the wound and seal it with a spit of tobacco …In a big swell, the man at the mast and the sprit, was more important than the man at the tiller. This man would hold his arms around the sail and drop the sprit, when they were on top of the swell to reduce her in case she'd broach, then he'd raise it up again when they were down, to get her up…".

Tarred canvas skin covers steamed Oak ribs, gunwales either red or white deal, with knees of willow - the Currach … carried by a single square sail

"Our lives depended upon the skill and courage of these men,
The excitement of the struggle was often too great to allow any time for fear.

I enjoyed the passage. Down in this shallow trough of canvas that bent and trembled with the motion of the rowing men.
I had a far more intimate feeling of the power and the glory of the waves than I have ever felt in a steamer."

"The *bád mór* and *leathbhád*…built from Larch and Oak, planked in red deal, on Elm frames. Strakes were chamfered and nailed to the stem face with sawn or bent frames"

"Pairs of light and finely fitted futtocks with swept grains, were lap-scarphed to the bottom timber.
Finally, the boat was coated over and over, with linseed oil or copper sulphate, to preserve the timbers, with red or white lead below the water line. Inside, it was tarred."

**"**The Keel, the structure upon which, all else depended the backbone of the hull. The boat could still flex in a seaworthy way…a shallop or sloop, a schooner, wherries or lateens…a lobster or whaleboat"

"The masts often carried no standing rigging and their bluntly, pointed heels,
slipped into a shoe, fitted fore and aft' over the frames."