

EXCLUSIVE BRAVE GER AND HIS PLUCKY HELPERS PROMISE

PEG SET TO GET

IRELAND's most heroic horse Peg and her stablemates are ready to ride the rescue again as floods threaten Limerick.

She may have been wearing blinkers, but plucky Peg played a blinder as she braved the flooded streets to rescue more than 200 people who were trapped in their homes in some of the most violent storms Ireland has ever seen.

The residents of St Mary's Park were happy to have a 'horse outside' when a hurricane, combined with high tides, caused the River Shannon to burst its banks and turn their neighbourhood into a floodzone.

Surrounded

The council estate, which sits side-by-side with St Ita's estate, is surrounded on three sides by the Shannon, and both are known as the Island Field, but this week they deserved a new nickname: Atlantis.

At least 300 homes were ruined during the flooding two weeks ago.

As elderly residents and children became trapped in their waterlogged homes, Peg's owner Ger Hogan decid-

Hero horse is set to tackle night-mare of floods again

By GERALDINE COMISKEY

ed to channel his passion for gee-gees into a bit of neighbourly goodwill.

As he ferried neighbours to safety on his vintage horse-trap, the dad-of-seven said it brought back memories of 1970s when he was Limerick's legendary coalman.

"I got my first horse and cart for £1,950 and took a few bags of coal and it all took off from there," he told the *Sunday World* this week.



PRAISE: Ger was personally thanked by Michael D Higgins



"I got a few more horses and I used to deliver six loads a day. People in all parts of the city knew me. The horses are just a pastime now. I keep them in a stable at the back of the house just as a hobby."

It was like the old days again as he hitched Peg up - only this time round the cargo was human.

Peg and her two stablemates - including Freckles, who was pictured

in the *Sunday World* two weeks ago - took it in turns, while Ger worked practically round the clock.

"I was going from early morning till night. I took them wherever they wanted to go - they were staying with relations in other parts of the city."

Unique

The unique 'water-taxi' was on the go from dawn to dusk for several days as the city's residential heart became Ireland's very own Venice. But there

was nothing romantic about the situation when stinking floodwater entered the houses, causing sewers and drains to overflow and rats to appear on the streets.

The community had just spent 12 days counting the cost of Hurricane Brigid, which caused the flooding on February 1, when Storm Darwin hit the whole country on Wednesday this week.

Peg and Ger were having a well-earned rest when the *Sunday World* caught up with them in between

BARGANTOWN.IE
OPEN TODAY ALL BRANCHES 1PM-6PM
EXCEPT QUEEN STREET

NEW GENEVA 3+1 SUITE

€1699



OLD SOFAS TAKEN AWAY. ASK SALES PERSON FOR DETAILS

POCKET COIL PRESTIGE DIVAN SET

4'6 DIVAN SET

€599

5FT DIVAN SET

€699

6FT DIVAN SET

€899



STORAGE DRAWERS EXTRA

OLD BEDS TAKEN AWAY. ASK SALES PERSON FOR DETAILS

4 DOOR SOLID PINE WARDROBE

€599



PRICE INCLUDES HOME ASSEMBLY

HP 165 COMPUTER STUDY DESK

€39



NO CUTS MARK

3FT WHITESTAR BED

€99



HEADBOARD NOT INCLUDED
INCL. MATTRESS

OLD DINING TABLES TAKEN AWAY. ASK SALES PERSON FOR DETAILS

DAKOTA TABLE & 6 HIGH BACK CHAIRS

CHOICE OF COLOURS



€499

OLD DINING TABLES TAKEN AWAY. ASK SALES PERSON FOR DETAILS