

One of John Barrett's photographs showing a Russian vessel with little room to spare in Bentinck Dock in May, 1986. At time time it was the longest ship ever to enter the enclosed docks. She left loaded with 2,800 tonnes of grain. The photograph, taken from the top of the grain silo, also shows the Conservancy Board tug, Conservator, and the dredger, Lenne Regis, moored in Alexandra Dock.

New book to tell the story of the docks

A FORMER port manager has shared his passion for Lynn docks in a book detailing the history of the town's port and its railways.

Mike Fell was manager from 1984 to 1987 during which period the annual cargo throughput over the enclosed dock guays surpassed one million tons for the first time.

He said it was an achievement shared by the highly enthusiastic and well-motivated workforce and the King's Lynn Conservancy Board.

During his years in Lynn, Mr Fell said he became passionate about the port's progress. He hoped the book would help readers recognise the town's rich maritime history and continuing importance as a thriving port.

He went on to work in a number of other ports and now lives near Hull.

The 112-page book tells the story of the docks from the railway era to the present day with 150 illustrations. They include some pictures supplied by Lynn photographer John Barrett, who also worked on the docks.

Mr Barrett, of King George V Avenue, expected the book to hold great appeal for former dockers and railway enthusiasts. He said: "I was guite stunned. I have never seen so

much information about the port of Lynn in one place."

Information about how to buy the book, published by Irwell Press, is available on Mr Barrett's website, www.jcbarrettphotographic.co.uk.

The book costs £15.95 and Mr Fell will be signing copies at The Willow Tree (formerly Harrods) in Tower Street, Lynn, from 11am to 2pm next Friday, September 28.