

Plain sailing as £3.5 million project lifts off

By RON KIRWAN

THE tide is about to turn for cabin cruisers and leisure boats trying to get into Limerick City.

Following the opening

of the £22 million Ballyconnell Canal, connecting the upper Shannon to the Erne, the final navigational obstruction through Limerick City is about to be tackled.

A £3.5 million project between Department of the Arts, Culture and the Islands, Limerick Corporation and Shannon Development will begin this June and when completed in the summer of

1999 will allow boats to tie up at moorings on the quayside.

Leisure boats and cabin cruisers are restricted through the city to about 50 minutes on every tide but that position will be

dramatically improved through the construction of a weir between Sarsfield Bridge and the Potato Market at Merchant's Quay.

When completed for the 1999 season access

through the city will be available through two-thirds of the tidal period.

Provision is also been made to enable pleasure craft to tie up at secure moorings behind the newly opened Hunt Museum.

Expo Limerick '98 will be just the job