It is possible that the word ‘girelate’ used in the post card, refers to a small fish as well as the board used in the surf. The curved tail of the board resembles a fish tail.

Aitor Linazasoro gave this board, which was made around 1978 to Inigo.

Iñigo Arina used to surf txampero with Mikal Troitiño at Zarautz, in the summers of 1981 and 1982. The board was bought from the ice cream shop in Zarautz, next to the old PUKAS store. The cost was 700 pesetas. At the time there were few others riding txampero with fins and catching waves. Iñigo painted his txampero and put a fin on the board. Lazaro Echegaray recalled that in September 1982 they referred to themselves as the **Wolf Planking Team.** Elou Ollarzabal was recalled as another txampero surfer. Otherwise there were some children riding txampero in the white water.

In addition to putting a fin on the txampero, with two screws, Iñigo experimented with a wristband consisting of a velcro and rope. However, this wristband was unnecessary as it was easy to hold onto a txampero. Iñigo the board with a curve in the tail was better and that narrower boards were easier to catch waves on. The wider boards also flexed more.

In the,local area, a neighbour of Iñigo a carpenter called **Azkue made txampero at his factory.**

No, I had it painted before. Very badly painted, white ... but not artistically. He painted it to look more like a board.

The boards in this photo are: yellow UK board (87 x 29cm – 25.1 cm at the tail), two the French clear plankys ( ); blue French planky by Jacky Rott ( 103 x 33.5), red Tiberon txampero (122 x 39.5 x 0.8 cm) and a pink Dick Pierce UK bellyboard (121 cm).

On the Mediterranean Coast, boatbuilders and carpenters from Valencia have been reported by X as making palanquin, based on those from Cantabria. Salva began making paulownia paipo style boards in year X, to ride around Valencia. Other manufacturers of Spanish wooden bellyboards, include xxx.

Joel de rosnay from 1947 (aged 10) going to Biarritz on summer holidays until riding surfboard in 1957.

Hello Gerard,

I am currently doing a major revision of my website about plankys/Spanish txampero etc. I have attached some photos of your boards. Can you tell me their country of origin and anything you know about the boards?

Hello Joel,

I am currently doing a major revision of my website about plankys/Spanish txampero etc. Something that is completely lacking is photos of these boards being used or beach scenes with planks. There are lots of photos from England, but virtually none from France. Do you have any such photos or know someone who might? Also, do you know anything about a 1950s planky competition?