

Newsletter

Issue 350

April 2001

THE HERO OF SANDY EDGE WHARF

On Thursday, 26th April 2001, Southampton Canal Society will again be host to the Day-Star Theatre Company. They will be presenting the first public performance of their new play for this year.

2001 sees Day-Star's 20th annual Waterways Tour. Watching a Day-Star performance is to experience a unique style of theatre often performed in whatever available space there is in canal side pubs or at festivals. With a few props, a little costume and your imaginations they will take you, the hall and anything else that gets in the way on a very unusual theatrical journey.

The Play

A rural village in Middle England. A canal climbs down a flight of locks to the wharf and pub before continuing on it's way across an embankment. Below the embankment lie the village allotments and the new executive houses. Along the main street can be found a church with a steeple, a general store and post office and an occasional bus service. All in all, Sandy Edge is a pleasant over night stop for the holiday boater

Stay a bit longer and you might meet the locals. There is the old gardener with pathological weed and insect killing tendencies.

There is the self righteous chairman of the Parish Council who owns the shop. There is the vodka drinking, wickedly mischievous Freda from the Old Vicarage. So when Josie Collins and her two boys decide to tie up their narrow boat in the 'long pound' and make Sandy Edge their home for a while they soon meet the locals and they soon get to hear about the war time legend of the hero of Sandy Edge Wharf.

This is the story of a rural village and the influ-

ence of the canal that runs through it. It is also a story of pride and prejudice, romance and heroism..... and its all built on sand

The performers probably need no introductions, but here they are anyway:

Jane Marshall

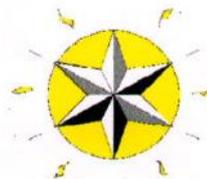
Co-founder of Day-Star. She has appeared in the film Robin Hood and on T.V. in Brookside. Jane also paints and runs courses on traditional canal painting. A country girl at heart and mad about horses. She also plays the fiddle.

Duffy Marshall

Co-founder of Day-Star and writer of all Day-Star plays, songs and music. He has appeared on T.V. in Watching, Coronation Street, Medics, Children's Ward and Brookside. He knows nothing about horses and prefers to sing songs in pubs. 'Duffy' is his mum's maiden name, his real name being Pete.

They moved on board an old wooden narrow boat called Day-Star in 1977 and by 1982 they were a touring theatre company. They now live and tour on The Angry Bull and are based at The Old Stables at Audlem on the Shropshire Union when not touring. Other hobbies include watching fishermen

**DAY-STAR
THEATRE**



and laughing.

So having whetted your appetite - do not delay - this all happens in just 3 weeks time. Tickets at the low cost of only £3.00 (which includes our traditional light refreshments after) are available now from Peter Oates. Address, phone number and email are given on the back page. Don't forget that this was our "May" meeting that was rearranged before Mr Blair decided to mess up the Society's plans.

March Meeting

During the first half of the meeting our speaker, Alan Palmer of 'The Friends of Raymond', gave us a talk on the history of this narrow boat.

It was the last working narrow boat to be constructed of timber and was built for Samuel Barlow at Braunston in 1958. Raymond was built in 4 months by four full-time workmen plus some part-timers, cost £1200 and was built of English timber, mostly grown in Northamptonshire.

Paired with a motor boat called 'Roger', they were crewed by Arthur and Rose Bray and Ernie Kendal. They spent most of their time carrying coal from Atherstone to Southall. In 1962 the boats passed to Blue Line, owned by Michael Streat, along with two other pairs, and the carrying continued until 1970.

The Brays and Ernie then bought the pair of boats to live on.

In 1981 'Raymond' was sold to the Collins who lived on her until 1990 when she began to sink.

She then passed to the Wooden Canal Craft Trust but no repairs were done. In 1995 'The Friends of

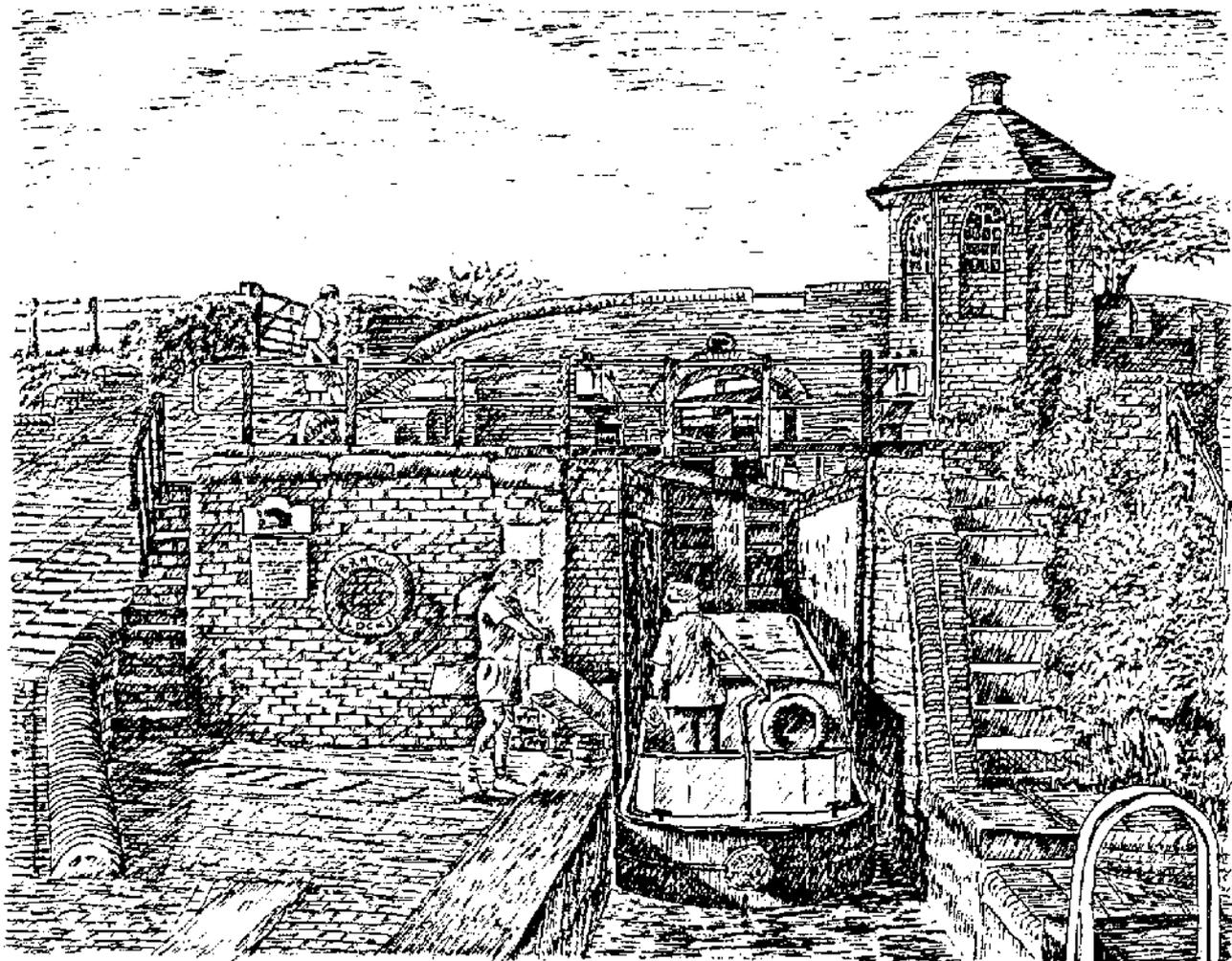
Raymond' was formed and after fund raising the boat was finally towed to a dry dock at the top of the Tardebigge flight on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal, where Phil Babb, assisted by Richard Clapham, began work to rescue it.

After our tea break, we watched a video recording of the restoration work. Well it was more of a rebuild since there was very little original timber that was not rotten. All the iron work was, however, usable.

Although a narrow boat looks of a relatively simple shape when sitting in the water, most members were surprised just how complicated the construction was with so many pieces of timber formed by saw or in the steam chest. Phil Babb and Richard Clapham are to be congratulated on the beautiful woodwork that they put into the 'new' Raymond, and also Alan Palmer for the work he did in helping to get the project started and with fundraising.

Our thanks to Alan for bringing this interesting programme to our meeting.

Brian Evans



Bratch Locks

Brian Evans 2001

FULL-LENGTH LOCKS ON MILLENNIUM RIBBLE LINK CAN NOW GO AHEAD

Full-length locks on the Millennium Ribble Link, the new waterway that will connect the Lancaster Canal to the main inland navigation system, are now set to be constructed.

The funding for the locks was assured today with the news that the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) has guaranteed a total of £45,000. This will be matched by The Waterways Trust, the owner of the new canal. A total of £90,000 was needed to enable all the locks on the Link to be built to pass the standard full-length narrow boat of 72 feet (22m), rather than the 62 feet (18.9m) length which the budget allowed. This is consistent with the standards of the Lancaster Canal. Navigation of the Link by full-length narrow boats will however require special supervision and manoeuvring where the channel is constrained by the road and rail crossings at Tom Benson Way. British Waterways who will manage the new Link will, if necessary, provide manpower to help full-length craft navigate this pinch-point.

In February 2001, IWA took the initiative to raise extra funds by pledging £20,000 towards the estimated £90,000 required to build full-length locks, and The Waterways Trust offered to match any funds raised by the Association £ for £. The Association called on other organisations with an interest in boating to make contributions to finance the shortfall. The deadline for the decision on constructing the full-length locks was the end of March 2001. Funds raised so far have left a shortfall to be underwritten by IWA at just over an additional £22,000, i.e. around £42,000 in all.

IWA have given their guarantee at this stage so that work can proceed, but their appeal for funds will now remain open.

IWA National Chairman, Richard Drake, said "IWA is delighted that the scheme to build full-length locks on the Millennium Ribble Link will now definitely go ahead. Raising the additional funding has been a real challenge, given the very short timescale involved, and we are delighted that The Waterways Trust has offered to match all monies raised through IWA's efforts.

"Constructing full-length locks at this stage is much cheaper than lengthening existing locks at a later date, and, importantly, the scheme will allow full-length narrow boats to use the Link when it opens. We would stress that it is not too late for other organisations to contribute funds to the scheme and would encourage them to do so."

Roger Hanbury, Chief Executive of The Waterways Trust, said "I am delighted that The Waterways Trust has been able to extend its financial commitment to this worthwhile scheme in partnership with the IWA. This is an important development for narrow boat owners that will improve access to the Lancaster Canal, soon to become an integral part of the UK waterway network. I applaud the IWA for their initiative and all those who have already made generous contributions to the appeal. I hope that boat clubs and canal societies as well as individuals will be able to make further contributions to the IWA, thereby releasing some of their funds for other waterway causes".

The original 1792 plans for the Lancaster Canal intended it to be constructed from Wigan to Kendal with aqueducts over the rivers Lune and Ribble. The sections from Wigan to Walton summit (near Preston) and from Preston to Kendal (including the Lune aqueduct) were eventually built but then the money ran out. The southern length from Wigan to Whittle-le-Woods became part of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and from Whittle-le-Woods to Walton Summit, a branch of that canal. A horse-drawn tramway connected the canal from Preston to Walton Summit, but the intended Ribble aqueduct was never built. The tramway was closed in 1879 and the Lancaster Canal has been isolated since then. The northern part of the Lancaster Canal, above Tewitfield was closed in 1955 and the M6 motorway subsequently blocked the canal line; this section of the canal is the subject of separate restoration proposals.

The Millennium Ribble Link will provide an alternative route for a link to the national system via the Rufford Arm of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and the Ribble Estuary. The project has been made possible by a partnership between The Waterways Trust, Lancashire County Council, the Ribble Link Trust, British Waterways and a grant of £2.7 million from the Millennium Commission. The Waterways Trust has contracted British Waterways to supervise the construction and subsequent management of the link.

Funding raised for the locks so far includes: £1,000 pledged by the Historic Narrow Boat Owners Club, £500 donated by DBA - The Barge Association, and £500 offered by IWA North Lancs and Cumbria Branch.

Joint Press Release from IWA and Waterways Trust, 20 March 2001

SHOE INN, PLAITFORD, JUNE 14, 1804.

SIR,

THE SOUTHAMPTON and SALISBURY CANAL is now navigable from the West End of the Tunnel near Southampton, to the East End of Alderbury Common, and would be to Northam (the great Depot for Coals) but for an accidental Interruption in the Tunnel.

The Committee have been enabled to compleat the Navigation thus far, by the liberal Assistance of the Treasurers and others, who now withhold further Aid, until their present Claims are put in a State of Liquidation. The Committee therefore recommend to the Serious Consideration of the Proprietors, How the Work is to proceed to its Place of Destination at Salisbury, without which, it cannot be rendered either serviceable to the public, or advantageous to the several Persons interested in its Success.

The Total Debts owing by the Company, including the several Sums due, to the Treasurers and others for Money advanced, to the Land Owners and Holders of Mortgage Bonds and for other Claims, amount to the Sum of £25000, or thereabouts ————thus circumstanced the Committee are under the pressing Necessity of making this their last Appeal to the whole Body of Proprietors, they say *last* Appeal, for to sink or swim appears to be the only Alternative at the present Juncture. The Committee flatter themselves however, from this true Representation of the Business, that the Proprietors will not hazard losing what they have already advanced, rather than subscribe a few Pounds more per Share, which would doubtless secure the Principal and Interest on Mortgage, and probably restore their original Shares to their full Value. If the Proprietors do not come forward according to the foregoing Proposition, there is no other method of satisfying the simple Debt Collectors, and raising Money for the Completion of the Canal, than by issuing Mortgage Bonds for those Purposes.

It will then be absolutely necessary, that the Canal Lands and Premises should be immediately taken Possession of by the Mortgage Holders, and be held by them till their whole Principal and Interest be liquidated. This will most likely suspend the Original Shares for One Hundred Years, if not totally annihilate them.

The Annual General Meeting of the Company of Proprietors will be held at the Dolphins Inn in Southampton, on Thursday the 28th Instant, between the Hours of Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon and One o'Clock in the Afternoon: and the Committee beg every Proprietor will either attend personally at that Meeting, or communicate their Intentions by Letter, (post paid) as Something decisive must then be done.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

THO. RIDDING, Clerk.

SOUTHAMPTON AND SALISBURY CANAL

On the opposite page is a reproduction of a printed letter that was discovered some years ago behind some panelling at the Shoe Inn, Plaitford on the Southampton to Salisbury road. This was rather appropriate as the letter was addressed from this very establishment nearly 197 years ago!

This letter forms the last, rather desperate plea to the shareholders by the Company's clerk, Thomas Ridding, to advance more money to complete the ailing canal. The canal had had little work done on it for about a year as a result of a lack of funds.

Indeed, on the same day that this letter was written, George Jones, who was the resident engineer, issued a writ against the company for his salary. As the company was unwilling to defend the action, judgement went against it by default and during July and August the sheriffs of Southampton and Wiltshire seized sections of the canal within their jurisdictions.

The company struggled to keep the entire canal open and it appears that barges continued to use the ruinous waterway until about 1809-10.

Our thanks go to Mr Eric Kemish of West Wellow who recently forwarded a photocopy of the original letter to Brian Evans.

Barge in at full speed

The following question and answer was spotted in the Daily Mail of Tuesday, February 20, 2001 in their 'Answers to Correspondents' section:

QUESTION In Hornblower And The Atropos, C. S. Forester's hero takes an express canal boat service, drawn by teams of fast horses, with other traffic obliged by law to get out of the way. Did this service ever exist?

EXPRESS canal boats (called fly-boats) existed on several canals, but the service mentioned in Hornblower And The Atropos did not. In the story, Hornblower is on his way from Gloucester to London for Nelson's funeral, following the admiral's demise at Trafalgar on October 21, 1805.

Hornblower 'legs' the packet boat through Sapperton Tunnel under the Cotswolds, and negotiates a 'flash lock' on the Thames.

The historical truth, sadly, is that the poor state of the river between Oxford and the junction with the Thames and Severn Canal prevented reliable traffic developing after the canal opened in 1789.

In 1819 - 14 years after Nelson's death - a fast boat service which by-passed the Upper Thames was operated from Gloucester to London following the opening of the North Wilts Canal.

Colin Dexter's Inspector Morse story The Wench Is

Dead is based on the real murder of a person on a Pickford's flyboat, where the passengers had to accommodate themselves as best they could amid the cargo. Hornblower's packet boat seems to be based on the more luxurious Duchess Countess, which worked a short distance on the Bridgewater Canal near Manchester. This carried a knife on its fore end to slice through towlines of oncoming boats.

Flyboats In pre-railway times paid a premium toll and were accorded priority by some canal companies. They were also worked by relays of horses and crews. They survived until well into the 20th century with some services being mechanised.

Examples of these ran between London and Birmingham, Ellesmere Port and Birmingham (the latter being horse drawn) and from Leicester to London.

One of the last flyboat services was the 'paper dasher', a nightly run from John Dickenson's paper mills at Apsley on the Grand Union Canal in Hertfordshire, to Battlebridge Basin, Kings Cross, with newsprint for Fleet Street. It survived into the late Fifties.

*David Blagrove,
Commercial Boat Operators Assoc,
Towcester, Northants*

**Cut out this reminder
So you don't forget!**

THE HERO OF SANDY EDGE WHARF

Thursday 26th April at 7.45pm. Tickets from Peter Oates at £3.00 each

IWA STATEMENT ON WATERWAY CLOSURES DUE TO FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

At its meeting on March 17th, the Council of the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) discussed the issue of inland waterway closures following the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.

Council supported the decision taken by British Waterways to act quickly to impose widespread restrictions as an emergency measure while the full implications of the situation were assessed.

Council noted that British Waterways has commissioned ADAS to rapidly assess the risk of re-opening individual waterways in liaison with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) and the National Farmers Union (NFU).

Officers of the Association are in daily contact with British Waterways senior management and have encouraged the re-opening of waterways as quickly as can be responsibly permitted.

Council was particularly mindful of the impact of the closures on businesses that depend on the inland waterways for the bulk or all of their income. Many waterside businesses are already suffering severe financial losses as a result of the closures and if the restrictions continue their situation will rapidly worsen.

Council considered that it was inappropriate to consider the issue of licence refunds and compensation at this stage. It was mindful that British Waterways management is fully stretched in working for re-opening and that this is the current priority. Council will consider this aspect at its May meeting if appropriate.

IWA Press Release, 20 March 2001

LATEST NEWS

Since the above press release, British Waterways have moved quite rapidly to reopen a large percentage of their network. Your editor, as someone who has only fairly recently acquired a narrow boat, has been suffering withdrawal symptoms from the boating drug after an enforced absence. As an observer at this distance from the canal network, they seem to have moved quickly to reopen around 90-95% of their waterway network to boaters, with most of the rest to follow.

In most urban centres waterways and towpaths have remained open to all users. However, towpaths on re-opened waterways running through rural areas will normally be open to boaters only, under special guidance. You may use the towpath during the course of your boating journey unless otherwise advised.

All British Waterways licence holders should have received detailed information on the precautionary procedures operating across the network as waterways re-open to boating. They have sent the same information to hire boat operators. One of the procedures that boaters have to follow involves disinfecting footwear whenever leaving or boarding their boat. Mooring is restricted in many areas and in a few places locks and moveable bridges are being operated by BW staff.

BW have asked ADAS to assist them in assessing the risks associated with re-opening, commercial off-line fisheries, popular visitor sites and then rural

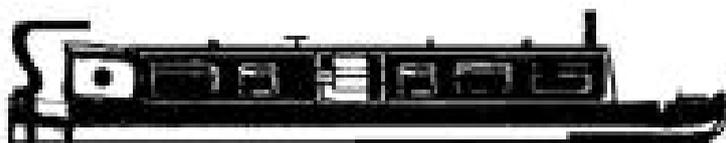
towpaths to walkers, cyclists, anglers and other visitors. ADAS will also advise on what precautions should be taken in these areas. The priority in this process will be to establish which stretches of towpath can be safely re-opened without posing a threat to livestock adjacent to the waterway. This will involve identifying access points off the towpath which lead across farmland with livestock present.

There are now a number of reservoirs and fisheries that are re-opening to anglers and some towpaths have re-opened to general users

If you need more advice on any issues connected with the effect of the Foot and Mouth disease outbreak on the waterways, you can visit BW's website www.britishwaterways.co.uk or call your local waterway office, or the Customer Services Team 01923 201120.

However, all this is not before most waterway businesses have suffered badly from loss of trade, something that is not going to recover as quickly as the canals re-open. Hire companies were not in a position to inform hirers whether the Easter holidays were still on until last week and many have suffered cancellations. Foreign hirers, who these days make up a not insubstantial percentage of the total, have been difficult to convince that they can now come here. Many seem to believe, particularly Americans, that coming here could be detrimental to their own health!

Peter Oates



WATERWAYS DIARY

The following is a list of waterway events taking place within approximately 50 miles of Southampton.

Hopefully you can find something to interest you. If YOU know of an event taking place that should be in this list then contact the editor.

Date	Organisers	Details of Event	Contact
Thu 05/04/01 7.45pm	Southampton CS	'Last of the Narrow boat Families' - a talk by Terry Putnam about narrow boat carrying in the late sixties on the Grand Union	Peter Oates: 01794 517614
Sat 07/04/01 to Sun 22/04/01	Chichester CS	Easter Bunny Trips, from Chichester Canal Basin - six trips a day on n/b <i>Egremont</i> . <i>Book early.</i>	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Thu 19/04/01 7.45pm	IWA Avon & Wilts Branch	A waterways quiz arranged by Eric Lewis at Riverside Inn, Saltford Marina, The Shallows, Saltford (off A4).	Bob Kelley: 0117 974 4221
Sun 22/04/01	IWA Solent & Arun Branch	River Arun - Pulborough to Pallingham Campaign Cruise. The annual campaign cruise to maintain navigation to Pallingham. A mid afternoon tide.	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Sun 29/04/01	IWA Guildford & Reading Branch	Guided Walk and Boat Gathering at the Old Woking Palace adjacent to the Old Woking Stream of the River Wey. More details later	Andy Simmonds: 01483 576176
Thu 26/04/01 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"THE HERO OF SANDY EDGE WHARF" - the new play for 2001 by Day-Star Theatre. Tickets: £3.00 (This is nominally the May meeting)	Peter Oates: 01794 517614
Sun 06/05/01	Wey & Arun CT & IWA Solent & Arun Branch	Wey & Arun Canal, Loxwood - small boat cruise. The W&A Canal Trust annual event to get small boats on the Loxwood section - two working locks and a view of the NEW Drungewick Lane bridge.	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Thu 17/05/01 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	To be announced	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 41284
Sun 20/05/01 10.30am	IWA Salisbury Group	Boat Trip on Wey & Arun Canal by Onslow Arms, Loxwood	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 41284
Thu 07/06/01 7.45pm	Southampton CS	'The Waterways Trust' - a talk by Roger Hanbury on the Trust, the new charitable organisation which is having a big effect upon the canal system.	Peter Oates: 01794 517614
Sun 24/06/01	IWA Solent & Arun Branch	River Adur - Save Ropetackle Slipway Campaign Cruise. Redevelopment of the Ropetackle area spans the slipway and may affect the parking available to boaters. IWA are using it to launch and recover as many boats as possible, with an upriver cruise with the tide.	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Sun 24/06/01 2.30 - 5.00pm	Chichester Canal Society	A Teddy Bears' Picnic - Canal Basin, Chichester. Disco, Pony Rides, Magic Show, Punch & Judy and lots more. They need you and your bear. Admission by ticket only. Children £6, parents free.	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Sun 01/07/01 2.00pm	Chichester CS	Guided Walk and Strawberry Tea. Meet at Salterns Lock. £3.50 for adults and £3 for children. The faint-hearted get a lift back from the Basin to Salterns Lock.	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Thu 05/07/01 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Annual General Meeting. Following talk to be finalised.	Peter Oates: 01794 517614
Wed 11/07/01 7.30pm	Chichester CS	Canal History Talk by John Herniman at Chichester District Council Offices. £2.00 includes light refreshments.	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Sat 14/07/01	Chichester CS	Beer Barrel Races in Chichester Canal Basin. Make up a team of four for £20 and win yourselves a barrel!	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Sat & Sun 14 & 15/07/01	IWA Solent & Arun Branch	Langstone & Chichester Harbours - The Gold Run - Milton Locks to Birdham. A 2 day cruise to trace cross harbour route of Portsmouth & Arundel CC's barges. Camping at Emsworth, slipways, car recovery organised for a one or two day stay.	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Thu 19/07/01 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Bruce Hall, Chairman of the Cotswold Canals Trust, will be talking about the Thames & Severn Canal. At Salisbury Rugby Club.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 41284
Sat 21/07/01 7.30pm	Mikron Theatre / Chichester CS	Geoffrey Osborne Centre, near Chichester Canal Basin	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
Sun 19/08/01 12 noon to 5pm	IWA Solent & Arun Branch / Chichester Canal Society	Chichester Canal Basin - Annual Canal Water Fair. Boats dressed as pirate ships. The slipway will be repaired so larger boats can be launched in safety. All the fun of the fair - coconut stalls, roundabouts, trips to treasure island, fancy dress, etc	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Fri - Mon 24 - 27/08/01		International Festival of the Sea - Portsmouth Naval Dockyard. IWA Solent & Arun Branch will not be running a stand, but they will have a presence on the water. If you can bring a classic or historic craft of ANY size, please contact Peter	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Sun 09/09/01	IWA Solent & Arun Branch	River Hamble - Warsash & Swanwick to Curbridge & Botley. An afternoon tide allows a visit to the Horse & Jockey at Curbridge and Botley Quay in time for tea and cakes and return in daylight to the slipways.	Peter Boyce: 02392 269642
Thu 20/09/01 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Roger Squires talking on London Canals and Creeks. At Salisbury Rugby Club	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 41284
Sat 24/11/01 to Mon 24/12/01	Chichester CS	Father Christmas trips from Chichester Canal Basin. Most popular event. Book early in November. Trips offered for adults as well for the kids - with seasonal refreshments included.	Jenny Pine: 01243 670786
4th Thursday of month	Wey & Arun CT	Interesting but not too arduous walks in Sussex come rain or shine. Lunch at well chosen establishment en route or at end. Donation to WACT appreciated.	Don Gibson: 01903 201375
All year	Wey & Arun CT	Cruises on n/b <i>Zachariah Keppel</i> on the restored canal at Loxwood.	John Lisk: 01493 752403.
All year	Chichester CS	Cruises on n/b <i>Egremont</i> on Chichester Canal.	Bookings: 01243 670786

SOUTHAMPTON CANAL SOCIETY

Established 1967

The objectives of the Society are to foster interest in canals and inland waterways, to assist in their preservation, restoration and development, and to give practical help on waterway projects.

Meetings:

1st Thursday each month at 7.45pm
Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton

Chairman:

Brian Evans, 19 Lansdowne Gardens, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8FN. Tel: 01794 517115

Secretary:

Peter Oates, 27 Northlands Road, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 5RU. Tel 01794 517614

Treasurer & Membership:

Laura Sturrock, 27 Northlands Road, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 5RU. Tel 01794 517614

Committee:

Martin Cripps, Paul Herbert, David Townley-Jones

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Society Website:

<http://www.users.waitrose.com/~whitenap/index.htm>

FUTURE MEETINGS

As you may remember, we were unable to book our meeting at Chilworth Parish Hall on the 3rd May as the hall was to be used as a polling station in the forthcoming local elections.

Now it seems that there are to be no elections on this date although in the volatile world of politics nothing can be considered certain. There is also the prospect that the local and general elections will be held on the 7th June. As you may realise this is the day of a Canal Society meeting. We are supposed to be having a visit from Roger Hanbury, the Chief Executive of the Waterways Trust.

As soon as we know what is happening, you will be informed of any modifications to our calendar.

The invitation to members to suggest topics / speakers for future meetings is still open. So, let Peter Oates (or any Committee member) know what you would like to see and hear - if the politicians let us!

CANAL SOCIETY SALES STAND

GEOProjects Maps:

Inland Waterways of Britain	£4.75
Basingstoke Canal	£3.00
Birmingham Canal Navigations	£3.75
The Broads	£3.75
Caledonian Canal & the Great Glen	£3.75
Coventry & Ashby Canals	£3.75
Grand Union Canal (each).....	£3.75
Map 1 Birmingham - Fenny Stratford	
Map 2 Braunston - Kings Langley	
Map 3 Fenny Stratford - Thames	
Map 4 Leicester Line - Soar - Erewash	

Kennet & Avon Canal	£3.75
Lee and Stort Navigations.....	£4.75
Leeds and Liverpool Canal	£4.75
Llangollen and Montgomery Canals	£3.75
London - City and Docklands Atlas	£3.75
Oxford Canal	£3.75
Shropshire Union Canal	£3.75
Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal <i>with the River Severn and the Gloucester & Sharpness Canal</i>	£3.75
The Thames Map	£3.75
Trent & Mersey Canal - Map 1 Preston Brook to Fradley Junction..	£3.75
Trent & Mersey Canal and River Trent - Map 2 Great Haywood Junction to Cromwell Lock.....	£3.75

Ball Point Pens: Embossed 50p

Burgees: Navy Blue - screen printed Society logo on each side £8.00

Decorated Mugs: £2.25

Notelets: with drawings of canal and Romsey scenes £1.00
(by Brian Evans)

Shopper Bags: Cotton with screen-printed Society logo each side . £2.25

Society Members Badges: Enamel 75p

Sweat Shirts: 30th Anniversary in Light Grey £16.00
with multi-coloured embroidered Society logo on breast

Sweat Shirts: Standard in Navy or Royal Blue £15.00
with Society logo embroidered on breast

Tea Towels: Various colourful designs £2.50 & £3.25

Tee Shirts: Screen printed with Society logo across chest £6.50
in Navy Blue - medium, large & extra large; in Red - medium

Visit the Sales Stand at Society meetings and place your orders with Paul Herbert or Ray Brooks - or ring Paul on 023 8026 2365

FORTHCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS

5th April 2001

'Last of the Narrow boat Families' - a talk by Terry Putnam about narrow boat carrying in the late 60's on the Grand Union

26th April 2001

"THE HERO OF SANDY EDGE WHARF" - the new play for 2001 by **Day-Star Theatre**. Tickets: £3.00. (As we can't use the hall on 3rd May, this is the "May" meeting.)

7th June 2001

'The Waterways Trust' - a talk by Roger Hanbury on the Trust, the new charitable organisation which is having a big effect upon the canal system.

5th July 2001

Annual General Meeting. Following talk to be finalised.