



Chairman : Brian Evans, 19 Lansdowne Gardens, **HUNT & Co**
: Romsey. Tel:- 0794 517115
Treasurer & : Les Osborn, The Gardener's Cottage,
Membership : Pinehurst Road, Bassett, Southampton.
: Tel:- 0703 768116
Secretary : Martin Cripps, 42 Delamere Road,
: Southsea. Tel:- 0705 753241

NEWSLETTER No. 251 FEBRUARY 1992

MEETINGS - 1st Thursday each month at 7.45 pm.
St. John Ambulance Hall, King's Park Road, Southampton.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 6th February - Paint your Narrowboat by International Paints - P Bennett.
This should include not only painting and decorating boats on
the inland waterways but also general information on
corrosion prevention, selection, preparation and application.
- 5th March - History of Wind and Water Mills - John Silman.
2nd April - 'My Latest Waterways Slides' - The Chairman.
-

DECEMBER MEETING. On arriving at the December meeting, members found a large collection of old farm tools laid out on tables at the front of the hall. They were invited to identify as many pieces as possible.

Having exhausted all their ideas, members sat down with a cup of tea (Christmas Party night) while Peter Armitage of Manor Farm and Upper Hamble Country park enlightened us as to what the tools were really for.

Many of his descriptions were quite amusing, but one or two made us gasp as he told us of the painful uses to which some tools were put.

He informed us how farmers in past times had to be carpenters, tool repairers and to some extent, vets. If a tool was broken, it was not thrown away, but often made into another type of tool. Today's waste could not, in those days, be afforded.

Peter's interesting talk was encouragement for us all to visit Manor Farm. The farm is open daily from Easter to the end of October and on Sundays only from Nov to Easter.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed the American Supper and another opportunity to examine all the tools again, full of the knowledge of what they were really for.

JANUARY MEETING. There was a good turnout to hear our Librarian, Mike Smetham, give his talk on the Southampton and Salisbury Canal. He firstly gave us a short history of the Canal, how it could have joined up with the other canals in the South of England and then the reasons for its demise after a very short time.

Mike then showed slides, taken about 20 years ago, of where the canal used to run. Some of the sites are still visible today but others have been destroyed during the last 20 years. Mike has some very rare slides taken inside the canal tunnel that ran under the Civic Centre in Southampton. He managed to take these slides when the tunnel was opened up to repair a roof fall. These slides showed how badly the tunnel had been built. Thanks go to Mike for giving the talk despite feeling under the weather.

SOMERSET COAL CANAL. When Jon Sims spoke to the Society in April of last year he showed slides of some relics he had found during a brief walk along the Somerset Coal Canal. He said that he hoped to return to this canal for a longer walk and exploration, maybe using a minibus to take a few interested people along with him.

The trip, by coach not minibus, has now been arranged and is on Saturday, 14th March, leaving Southampton at about 9.00am. Cost about £7-00. Full details to be confirmed.

If anyone is interested (you need to be fairly fit as Jon expects to walk about 10 miles during the day) he hopes to be at the February meeting, so see him there. If you were not at the February meeting and are interested in going, telephone Jon at home on Southampton 732868.

GUILDFORD AND READING BRANCH are joint organisers with the Byfleet Boat Club of an Independence Rally at Lock 1, Basingstoke Canal on 4/5 July 1992. Entry details from Angela Percy. Tel:- 0252 625939

THE IWA/WRG CHARITY BANK raised over £3000 during 1991 against their target of £2250. Over £6500 has now been raised for canal restoration schemes over the last 4 years.

Please continue to bring used stamps, trading stamps, petrol vouchers etc. to meetings and put them in the container on the tea bar.

THE SOLENT AND ARUN BRANCH of the I.W.A will be meeting at the Chichester Canal Basin at 10.00 on both days of the I.W.A Canal Clean up on the weekend of 7/8th March. Any Southampton Canal Society members are welcome to attend.

This years River Arun Cruise will be held on Sunday 12th April departing from the Waters Edge Hotel, Pulborough at 10.00am. This is the tenth cruise organised by the Solent and Arun Branch. Details and sponsorship forms from:- A.White, The Wheelhouse, Pottery Lane, Nutbourne, Chichester, Sussex, PO18 8RW.

GUIDED WALKS along the Regents Canal.

Sunday 1st March, Paddington at 2.30pm.

Sunday 5th April, Islington at 2.30pm.

All walks start at Camden Town Underground Station and last about 2 hours.

Walkers are invited to make a contribution to the I.W.A

The number of people who have walked over the fifteen years has now reached over 3,750 providing the I.W.A with £2,670.

NATIONAL WATERWAYS FESTIVALS. Extract from IWA Council News - January 1992

It is still hoped that the 1993 National can be held in the City of Peterborough. The board are working hard to overcome a number of obstacles. The 1993 Trailboat Rally will be held in Chelmsford.

From May 1st to 3rd 1993, the North West Region is organising the Castlefield International Waterways Festival in Manchester to celebrate the £32 million of work that has been undertaken in the Castlefield Urban Heritage Park.

IWA Council and the Festivals Board have agreed to re-introduce a third National Festival each year. Joining the National and the National Trailboat Festivals will be a new event known as the National Campaign Festival. This will be organised in areas where a major campaign is thought to be necessary.

The 1992 Campaign Festival will be held at Worksop, on the Chesterfield Canal, organised by the IWA, Chesterfield Canal Society and the Retford & Worksop Boat Club. The provisional dates are 11th-12th July.

The 1992 National Trailboat Festival is at Taunton on 23rd-25th May.

The 1992 National Waterways Festival is at Wakefield on 29th-31st August.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|-------------|--|----------------------------------|
| March 22 | Icicle Cruise | IWA Birmingham Branch |
| April 4 | Grand National Cruise to Aintree | IWA Merseyside Branch |
| April 12 | Walk - Manchester, Bolton & Bury Canal | IWA North Lancs & Cumbria Branch |
| April 18/19 | Gathering of Boats | IWA North Lancs & Cumbria Branch |
| May 2/4 | Boaters' weekend | Sleaford Navigation Society |
| May 3 | Birmingham Canal Navigations Cruise | IWA Birmingham Branch |
| May 16/17 | Campaign Cruise to Liverpool | IWA Merseyside Branch |
| June 7 | Frankton Gathering | IWA Shrewsbury Branch |
| June 13/14 | Stafford Boat Rally | Stafford Boat Club |

HOLIDAY FOR THE OVER 60s. We have received details of a SAGA canal walking week, based at Huddersfield University timed for the week beginning 18th August 1992.

The programme is designed to explore the three trans-pennine canals, Leeds & Liverpool, Rochdale and the Huddersfield Narrow. Additional visits are planned to Wigan Pier Museum, Ripon and York.

Further details from your Chairman.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ. As nobody brought along their answers for the Christmas Quiz to the January Meeting, the Committee didn't have to give away a years subscription to Southampton Canal Society. All the answers are below:-

1. (C)
2. (B)
3. (C)
4. (B)
5. (A)
6. Banavie (Neptune's Staircase)
7. (A)
8. (C) Cookley and Dunsley Tunnels were opened in 1771.
9. (C)
10. (B)
11. Dukinfield Junction
12. River Weaver and Trent & Mersey Canal
13. Godalming on the River Wey
14. (B)
15. Cressy
16. (B)
17. (A) Closed 1921.