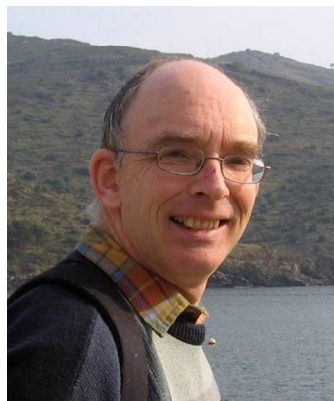




Chairman's Column

Andy Berncastle



When Gill and I returned from our early summer cruise we learned, with great sadness, of the passing of Andy Berncastle on 12 June.

Andy was a great supporter of both Southampton Canal Society and the IWA Solent & Arun Branch, and of the

waterways movement in general. Andy had been suffering from cancer for some time. Our thoughts go out to Hilary. A Service of Thanksgiving for his Life was held at St Mark's Church, Ampfield on Friday 25 June, which was attended by our President, Brian Evans and Gill (I was unable to attend as I was away from the area). If any member would like to make a donation in memory of Andy, it should be made to Cancer Research UK. I can forward it to the appropriate person.

July Meeting

Welcome to Ali Morse of The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust who will be giving us an update on 'The Itchen Navigation Project'.

Society Horse-Drawn Boat Trip

Following on from the information published in the last Newsletter, Maureen has organised a horse-drawn boat trip from Kintbury on the Kennet & Avon Canal on Saturday 2 October. As usual, confirmation of that trip will be dependent upon sufficient interest from our

members. At present interest has been slow, so please sign up now! Full information on this cruise is included below.

Day-Star Theatre

Don't forget, tickets for Day-Star Theatre's production of "The Worst Summer Ever" on Friday 8 October are now on sale. Have you got yours yet?

Society Visit to Bursledon Brickworks

Details of the Society's visit to Bursledon Brickworks on 10 June are included in this Newsletter.

Chairman's Cruise

As I write this Gill and I have recently returned from our six week early summer cruise to Llangollen. We experienced virtually all types of weather, and temperatures, excluding snow! Our cruise started off from the Society's Boat Gathering at Braunston where, in addition to meeting up with all those Society members who participated in that weekend, we also saw Ken and Margaret Froud who came over to Braunston, by car, from their residential boat at Napton. When we reached Hopwas on the Coventry Canal we stopped over with Sonja Moore and her son Mike and daughter-in-law Jennie. Much later in the cruise we met up with Pete and Jane Marshall of Day-Star Theatre. So, much to remind us of the Canal Society on route.

2010 Annual General Meeting

A reminder that our 2010 AGM will be held on Thursday 22 July and all documentation will be published in the next Newsletter. The formal part of the meeting will be followed by a Cheese & Wine Evening.

Paul Herbert

Society Horse-Drawn Boat Trip



Trip on the Kennet Valley

From Kintbury on the Kennet & Avon Canal

Saturday 2 October 2010

2.00pm to 5.00pm

Cost: £14 for seniors and children

£15 for adults

To include cake, scone with cream and jam, tea/coffee on board

Bookings: Maureen Greenham tel 02380 406951 or email maureen.greenham@talktalk.net

Day-Star Theatre



Day-Star Theatre

will be visiting the

Southampton Canal Society

on

Friday 8 October at 7.45pm

Tickets £8: available from Angela Rose and Anne Coleman

An American Supper will follow the show.

June Meeting

John Silman - Industrial Properties, the Wey & Arun and "Saucy Postcards"

Tony Yoward was scheduled to join John Silman for the evening but unfortunately was unable to make it. However, John brought us all in to participate in the slides hence the "banter" of the evening was good. John showed us many slides - too many to detail individually but some of the highlights were as follows:

We started off with a selection of old slides of the Wey & Arun Canal and the surrounding area (some of the slides were on loan from Tony Yoward). We travelled from the Mediaeval Bridge at Stopham on the River Arun. A wooden ferry, at a fast flowing part of the river, for "carts & animals" looked interesting! We also saw the now closed Hardham Tunnel on the Arun Navigation.

Then as part of a tour of the country, we had a look at "Grimes Graves" Norfolk, the Stone Age Flint Workings. Then we made a stop at 1804 "Moira" Iron Blast Furnace on the Ashby Canal.

Of course, we studied one of I K Brunel's masterpiece's the 1859 Tamar Bridge and the Clifton Suspension Bridge completed after his death. Then moved into Somerset to see the Peat cutting. Further south a view of the "Merchants Railway" a Tramway on Portland, used to load Portland stone onto boats, etc.

We now know the Beaulieu Estate has a Tithe Barn! John was brought up on a farm estate in North Hampshire, hence his interest in Industrial History. We looked at farm machinery and stationary engines. He recommended visiting the Electric Museum at Christchurch.

Some of us remember "Prefabs." Next a superb slide of Salisbury Cathedral looking right up inside the spire. Finally, after a very interesting evening, a few old "Saucy Postcards" which caused a few giggles. Thank you, John.

Angela Rose

Society Visit to Bursledon Brickworks

On Thurs 10th June around 20 Members paid a visit to the Bursledon Brickworks on what started out as warm, damp afternoon which fast became a monsoon! Ideal for canal people. This restricted the outside tour, however this was more than made up for with what went on inside.



We split into two groups, our group Guide being ably assisted by Brian Greenham. We started with some museum & brickworks history, moving onto the area where the brick moulds are displayed. Here we were shown how the moulds are used or as demonstrated "thrown" this involves throwing the clay by hand into the mould, not as easy as it looks.

Then we moved onto the clay preparation and brick extrusion (sounds painful) area. Here we saw some heavy machinery, large clay rollers and extruders driven by lay shafts from the Engine House next door, and various brick pressing & related machines.

Our guide explained how the clay is processed and the methods used by a skilled operator who wire cut the extruded bricks into small batches.

Now into the Engine Room housing the large single cylinder steam driven engine, which still operates and is demonstrated on special steam open days. The original Lancashire boilers are still in place, decommissioned and retained as a static display, steam being generated now by modern plant.

We then entered the brick drying rooms located on two floors where spent steam from the engine plant is used to dry the bricks through heating coils & slated timber floors. Previously bricks were dried outside, this process was seasonal & weather dependant.

Bursledon Brickworks was the first works to come up with the idea

to use spent engine steam to dry bricks inside, this we were told increased brick production from 80,000 to 20 Million bricks a year thus transforming the whole industry of brick making.

By now the Bursledon Monsoon was at its peak so grateful cover was taken in the Kilns. There were 12 kilns originally; this is where the dried bricks were fired or "cooked".

After the bricks were fired and cooled slightly, they were loaded by hand into barrows & taken to the Wharf. For Society Members this was an interesting bonus. Although we never made it outside there is a lovely mural inside the museum of the wharf, showing the loading of the barge "Langstone" which shipped loads to Sussex & Surrey via the Portsmouth, Chichester & Way & Arun canals. Sadly the barge was lost but there was an excellent model of it on display & other artefacts.

Left: The clay preparation and brick extrusion area.
Below: The large single cylinder steam driven engine.
Pictures copyright © David Townley-Jones



This was followed by a walk through the maintenance & training workshops, where conservation & other skills are taught.

Finally a rush to the tearoom, where Maureen provided an excellent (not for the faint hearted) cream tea.

Plus a peek for some of us at an amazing (4 Million) matchstick model of an oil-rig.

A great afternoon despite the rain & well worth another visit sometime to see what's on offer outside?

David Townley-Jones

Waterways Diary

The following is a list of waterway events taking place within approximately 50 miles of Southampton. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the correctness of this information, please check with the listed contact who will be glad to confirm and supply further details.

Recently, OS grid references and/or postcodes have been added (where known but not guaranteed) to aid location of the event. If YOU know of an event taking place that should be in this list then please contact the editor.

Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Thu 1 Jul 2010 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Power point presentation on the Itchen Navigation by Ali Morse, project manager for the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Thu 1 Jul 2010 8.00pm		Mikron Theatre with "Striking the Balance" about the fight for equal pay in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Blubeckers at The Rowbarge, Station Road, Woolhampton, Reading, Berkshire RG7 5SH (SU572664). Suggested donation £10.	Mikron Theatre: 01484 843701; Email: admin@mikron.org.uk ; Web: www.mikron.org.uk
Sun 4 Jul 2010 10.30am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Guided walk from Birdham sea lock along the Chichester Canal to the Canal Basin in Chichester. Approx. 4 miles. See some of the excavated engineering remains of the canal. Parking at the Marina (SU835010)	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 4 Jul 2010 7.30pm	Reading Borough Council	Mikron Theatre with "Striking the Balance" about the fight for equal pay in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Caversham Court, Reading, by the Thames. RG4 7 (SU709748). Free show. For further details tel: 0118 9390771	Mikron Theatre: 01484 843701; Email: admin@mikron.org.uk ; Web: www.mikron.org.uk
Mon 5 Jul 2010 7.30pm		Mikron Theatre with "Striking the Balance" about the fight for equal pay in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Goring Lock, Goring RG8 9AE (SU596808). Suggested donation £10.	Mikron Theatre: 01484 843701; Email: admin@mikron.org.uk ; Web: www.mikron.org.uk
Mon 5 - Thu 15 Jul 2010	Somersetshire Coal CS	Somersetshire Coal Canal Exhibition. Bradford-on-Avon Public Library, Bridge St, Bradford, Wilts, BA15 1BY (ST826608)	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: derrickjohnhunt@btinternet.com
Tue 6 Jul 2010 8.00pm		Mikron Theatre with "Pedal Power" freewheeling through cycling history with the wind at its back. Waterfront Cafe at Benson Marina, Benson, Oxon, OX10 6SJ. (SU613916) Tickets £10 must be booked in advance.	Tel: 01491 838435 to book tickets.
Wed 7 Jul 2010 7.30pm		Mikron Theatre with "Striking the Balance" about the fight for equal pay in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. The Plough Inn, High Street, Long Wittenham, Abingdon OX14 4QH. (SU546938) Suggested donation £10.	Tel: 01865 407738
Thu 8 Jul 2010 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Talk on Somersetshire Coal Canal by Roger Halse. Bradford-on-Avon Public Library, Bridge St, Bradford, Wilts, BA15 1BY (ST826608)	Roger Halse: 01249 652846. Hours: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/wiltslib/getlib.php?id=5
Sat 10 Jul 2010 10.00am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Guided walk along part of the old Portsmouth and Arundel Canal. Meet at Barnham Court Farm, Church Lane, Barnham, PO22 0BN (SU956035) for approx. 6 mile walk to Hunston. Bring packed lunch.	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 11 Jul 2010	Wey & Arun CT	Boat Rally on the stretch of the River Wey from Guns Mouth in Shalford, near Guildford (SU997464).	Sally Schupke: 01483 503029 Email: rallies@weyandarun.co.uk
Sun 11 Jul 2010 10.00am - 4.00pm	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Poyntz Swing Bridge will be in operation for the day. Situated just 200 yards below the Chichester canal basin (SU859038). Display about the canal and its history on site. Guided walk around the canal basin led by Alan Green at 14.00 featuring the industrial history of the basin.	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 18 Jul 2010 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - The Somersetshire Coal Canal around Monkton Combe. Meet: Brassknocker Basin, Monkton Combe, Bath, BA2 7JD (ST781621).	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: mike@chapman76.fsnet.co.uk
Thu 22 Jul 2010 7.45pm	Southampton CS	AGM followed by "A Social Evening" with Cheese & Wine. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Sun 25 Jul 2010 10.00am - 5.00pm	Kennet & Avon CT	Newbury Waterways Festival. Entry free. Victoria Park Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1EH. (SU473673).	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: GrahamV.Smith@virgin.net
Sun 22 Aug 2010 7.30pm		Mikron Theatre with "Striking the Balance" about the fight for equal pay in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Fox & Hounds, Fleet, Hants, GU52 7PR (SU803530).	Mikron Theatre: 01484 843701; Email: admin@mikron.org.uk ; Web: www.mikron.org.uk
Thu 2 Sep 2010 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Dennis Bright with a presentation on the "Sparrow Hawk" & other birds of prey. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Sat 11 Sep 2010 10.00am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Guided walk along part of the old Portsmouth and Arundel Canal. Meet at Barnham Court Farm, Church Lane, Barnham, PO22 0BN (SU956035) for approx. 4 mile walk to Ford. Bring packed lunch.	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 12 Sep 2010	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Poyntz Swing Bridge will be in operation for the day. Situated just 200 yards below the Chichester canal basin (SU859038). Display about the canal and its history on site. Guided walk around the canal basin led by Alan Green at 14.00 featuring the industrial history of the basin.	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Sun 19 Sep 2010	Wey & Arun CT	Small Boat Rally at Dunsfold (Alfold Road to Three Compasses pub) (TQ034360). £5 for canoes, dinghies, kayaks, etc.	John F. H. Taylor-Cram: 02392 250463 Email: tractor1936@btinternet.com Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 23 Sep 2010 10.00am	Wey & Arun CT	10.5 mile walk (approx 4 hours) walk following the route of the middle section of the Wey South Path. Start: Run Common Road north of Cranleigh (TQ032419). Finish: Onslow Arms, Loxwood (TQ041311). Transport from finish to start at 9.15am. Call office to book place.	WACT office: 01403 752403. Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk/walks.php
Fri 8 Oct 2010 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Day Star Theatre presents "The Worst Summer Ever". See page 2. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Thu 4 Nov 2010 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Richard Thomas presents "The Gunpowder Plot". Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com

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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.

President:

Brian Evans.

Chairman:

Paul Herbert, 25 Rosemoor Grove, Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, SO53 1TB. Tel: 02380 262365.

Email: p_herbert1@sky.com

Secretary:

Angela Rose, Hilo, Hungerford, Bursledon, Hampshire, SO31 8DF. Tel: 02380 632558 (day) 02380 403982 (home)

Email: info@apas-engineering.com

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Anne Coleman, 18 Fairisle Road, Lordshill, Southampton, SO16 8BY. Tel: 02380 735444 . Email: anne-c@virginmedia.com

Committee:

Maureen Greenham, Alan Rose, David Townley-Jones

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:

Peter Oates, 39 Church Street, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, NN7 3LH. Tel: 01327 341798.

Email: scs@whitenap.plus.com

Society Website:

<http://www.sotoncs.org.uk>

Meetings:

Normally 1st Thursday each month at 7.45pm. (See Waterways Diary.) Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. OS Grid Ref: SU410184.

Changes to boat licence fees 2010

In November 2009 British Waterways published a short consultation paper on proposals for changes to boat licence fees for 2010. There were 57 responses to the invitation for feedback, including 14 from organisations representing boat licence holders. Based on this feedback, decisions have now been made on changes to boat licence fees and the payment process.

- To encourage boating customers to pay by debit card or direct debit payments, which carry much lower transaction fees, from August 2010 a fixed charge of £7.50 will be introduced on payments for licences and mooring permits settled by credit card. The charge will only apply to payments by credit card, not debit cards.
- From 2011, the Waterway Explorer Licence will be available only when purchased using the online system or by telephone to our national customer service team. This decision replaces the proposal to withdraw the Explorer Licence altogether but ensures that the enforcement process remains cost-effective.
- From August 2010 an across-the-board increase in all licence fees of 1% will take effect. This change replaces the proposal to reduce the size of the prompt payment discount which was decided to be unfair to those customers who pay on time. The prompt payment discount will therefore remain at 10%.

- BW will continue to develop significant cost savings from use of the internet for transactions with customers and publishing information. Money saved in this way means more for maintenance and repairs to the waterways. However, BW will continue to maintain alternative methods for people for whom the internet remains inconvenient or unavailable. We are now consulting with boat clubs and local licensing agents over a new method of reward for their continuing support of licence enforcement, in an environment where renewals are conducted online.

Sally Ash, BWs' head of boating, says: "These decisions have been made after careful consideration of consultation feedback from our boating customers and their representative organisations. We regret the need to apply a small general increase to licence fees, but are now confident that this is what the great majority of customers would prefer to the alternative contained within our original proposals.

"When the financial climate was more stable, BW was able to offer longer term certainty over the level of licence fees. It is our sincere hope that more secure funding for the waterways will emerge from the proposed move to the third sector, helping us in time to return to more predictable licence prices."

www.waterscape.com - 9 June 2010

Annual General Meeting 2010

In accordance with the Constitution, notice is hereby formally given of the Southampton Canal Society's Annual General Meeting on the 22nd July 2010 at Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth Road, Chilworth, Southampton at 7.45pm.

Any member may request an item to be included on the agenda of the AGM by giving at least fourteen days written notice of the item and its nature to the Chairman, Paul Herbert (contact details above).

Waterways Diary

Continued from page 3

31 Jul, 1 Aug, 28-30 Aug, 25-26 Sep 2010	Kennet & Avon CT	Crofton Beam Engines - Steaming Days. 10.30am - 5.00pm Adults £8.00, Seniors £7.00, Children £3.00, Families (2 adults & 2 children) £18.00, K&ACT Members free. Crofton Pumping Station, SN8 3DW (SU261622).	Tel: 01672 870300 Email: er23fc45@CroftonBeamEngines.org Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
Every day until 24 Sep 2010 except Weds	Kennet & Avon CT	Crofton Beam Engines - Not in steam. 10.30am - 5.00pm Adults £5.00, Seniors £4.50, Children £3.00, Families (2 adults & 2 children) £12.50, K&ACT Members free. Crofton Pumping Station, SN8 3DW (SU261622).	Tel: 01672 870300 Email: er23fc45@CroftonBeamEngines.org Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
11, 25 Jul, 8, 29-30 Aug, 12, 26 Sep, 24 Oct 2010	Kennet & Avon CT	Claverton Pumping Station - Pumping days. 10.00am - 5.00pm. Adults £4.50, Children under 16 free with adult. Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST791643)	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Every Wed, Sat, Sun & Bank Hol until 24 Oct	Kennet & Avon CT	Claverton Pumping Station - Days not pumping. 10.00am - 5.00pm (4.00pm Weds). Adults £4.50, Children under 16 free with adult. Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST791643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sun 4 & 18 Jul, 15 Aug 2010 2.00pm	Friends of Purton	Guided tours through the remains of the Purton Hulks led by Paul Barnett. Tour fee £3.50 per person. Approx 2 hours weather permitting. Meet Purton Lower Bridge, Gloucester & Sharpness Canal (SO692044).	Paul Barnett: 07833 143231 Email: barnadiilo@aol.com Web: www.friendsofpurton.org.uk