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**Noxious Material**

A Lottery funding bid by the Wendover Arm Trust and CRT to reopen a further 1¾ mile of the Wendover Arm, already approved in principle, has been withdrawn after unexpectedly serious contamination was discovered.

The £1.9m project aims to complete the rebuilding of the dry length of canal from the current terminus at Tringford to Aston Clinton with an application for £1.6m from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Unfortunately a short section at Little Tring has turned out to contain "noxious material" which would need to be removed to a specially licensed area at great expense including a hefty landfill tax which would be well beyond what had been budgeted.

However the two trusts say that much preparation work done so far need not be repeated, and that they will "concentrate on solving these challenges so that a fresh submission for funding could be submitted in due course".

*Canal Boat - 7 February 2018*

**Chairman's Column****March 1st Meeting**

This evening we welcome Caroline Tilly, Volunteer and Education Presenter of the Royal National Life Boat Institution. Caroline will remind us of beach and sea safety, which also relates to being safe on the Canal system. The evening is to help and promote fundraising.

**April Meeting**

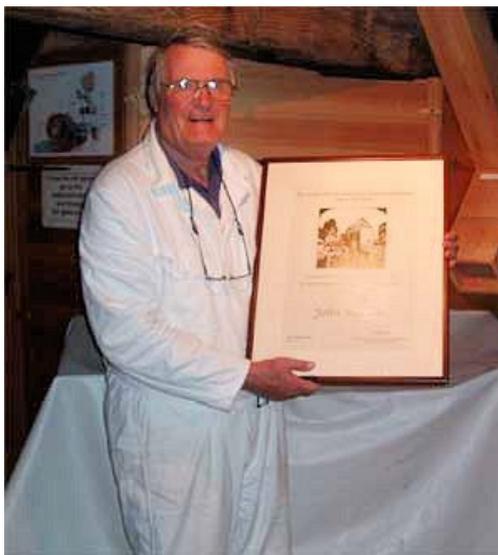
The meeting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April we will hear Roger Cansdale's interesting talk "Heroes & Villains the Basingstoke Canal" This will be a very intriguing occasion.

**May Meeting**

As always, there will be **NO** May meeting.

**Boat Gathering**

Another reminder of the Early May Bank Holiday

**John Silman**

"I'll do it for six months, just until you find someone else." It was more than thirty years later that John Silman found a replacement Chairman for the Hampshire Mills Group.

Well known to many hundreds of mill and industrial history enthusiasts in Britain and the Continent, John Silman died at the end of January.

A founder member of Hampshire Mills Group, John Silman spearheaded a small band of

boat gathering in the Napton- Braunston area. Any interest please see me.

**SCS Committee Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

A polite notification - This year's AGM will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Chilworth Parish Hall starting at 8.00pm.

At the recent meeting all the current officers and members agreed to stand again for the year 2018 - 2019. The Committee is always looking for new members to provide help and new ideas. Nominations for Office or for Committee membership (together with a seconder) should be sent to the Secretary by the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018.

In the meantime, any help with the Refreshments and the Raffle would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

*Alan Rose*

enthusiasts through more than three decades of rescue and repair of many of Hampshire's wind and water mills. Mill owners and work parties of other mills groups throughout the country sought his advice.

He also delivered countless illuminating and highly informative talks to an enormous cross section of groups and societies across the south of England, and not just about mills, but about old postcards and canals too. He spent many days labouring with the "Heavy Gang" team, working to repair and restore Hampshire's industrial past. He even found time, somehow, to be a keen member of the Southampton Canal Society.

In recognition of John's enormous contribution, the Mills Section of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) presented him with an illuminated citation in November 2006. Justly proud of this rarely bestowed honour, John is photographed with it at Longbridge Mill.

He was at the forefront of mill related research and restoration, serving on the SPAB Mills Section Committee and a keen promoter of the Mills Archive Trust. Always ready to share his knowledge, this genial gentleman will be sorely missed.

*With acknowledgements to [Hampshire Mills Group](#) and the [Mills Archive Trust](#)*

**Subscriptions – an early reminder**

The Society year runs from 1 April until 31 March. Subscriptions this year are due after 1 April 2018 and should be paid before the next AGM. As voted at the last AGM subscriptions are unchanged at £16 for a single member and £27 for joint membership.

*Alfred Derbyshire - Treasurer and Membership Secretary*

## Waterways Events

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.

OS grid references and/or postcodes are shown (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.

Date/Time	Organiser	Details	Venue	Contact
Thu 1 Mar 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>The Royal National Lifeboat Institution.</b> Caroline Tilley will talk about RNLI, the charity which rescues 24 people a day.	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Sat 10 Mar 2018 10.00am-4.00pm	Canal & River Trust	<b>Seend Locks Open Day.</b> Lock 18 is having both sets of gates and balance beams replaced. Learn all about the canal and go down into the lock. Parking available and The Barge Inn is nearby for refreshments.	Seend Lock 18, Kennet & Avon Canal, Seend, Melksham, SN12 6QB (ST931613).	Phone: 0303 040 4040 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries.kennetavon@canalrivertrust.org.uk">enquiries.kennetavon@canalrivertrust.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/">https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/</a>
Thu 15 Mar 2018 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	<b>"Braunston &amp; Stoke Bruerne – from Waterway Transport to Leisure use Today."</b> John Pomfret looks at transport history in these villages and then takes us through the rise and fall of freight canal traffic to the recent leisure developments.	The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR (SU182275).	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: <a href="mailto:glover.3@btinternet.com">glover.3@btinternet.com</a> Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Thu 15 Mar 2018 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>The Bristol Junction Canal</b> by Stuart Fisher.	Radstock Working Men's Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547). For location <a href="#">see map here</a>	Steve Page: 01761 433418 Email: <a href="mailto:membership@coalcanal.org.uk">membership@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Tue 20 Mar 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>Branch AGM.</b> Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 21 Mar 2018	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>Branch Annual Lunch.</b>	Butt Inn, Station Rd, Aldermaston, Reading RG7 4LA (SU600669).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 21 Mar 2018 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	<b>"Whitchurch Silk Mill."</b> Join Deborah Wheeler for a virtual tour of a Georgian silk weaving water mill, see, hear and feel it's fascinating history and beautiful fabrics.	Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Malcolm Brickwood: 07437 200021 Email: <a href="mailto:chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk">chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk">www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a>
Sat-Mon 31-2 Mar-Apr 2018 10.30am-4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>Easter weekend steaming.</b> Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a>
Thu 5 Apr 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>The Heroes &amp; Villains of The Basingstoke Canal.</b> This canal largely owes its existence to a few people at critical points in its history. Some of their actions were soundly commercial or altruistic and some fraudulent and criminal. Roger Cansdale tells about these heroes and villains.	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Sun 8 Apr 2018 9.30am-5.00pm	Abingdon Rowing Club	<b>Abingdon Spring Head of the River Rowing Festival.</b> 360 boats from across the UK race 2000m against the clock from 10 am through the afternoon. BBQ, local beer, tea and cakes, Morris dancing and loads of fun. Free to watch, paid parking available.	Rye Farm Meadow, Abingdon, OX14 3HY (SU499968) and along the Thames towards Culham weir.	Paul Wenman - Tel: 01235 532406 Email: <a href="mailto:paul@wenmans.com">paul@wenmans.com</a> Web: <a href="http://Abingdon Rowing Club">Abingdon Rowing Club</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/abingdonrowingclubhead">abingdon rowing club head</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/abingdonrc">@abingdonrc</a>
Sat 14 Apr 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sun 15 Apr 2018 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>Walk - A visit to Paglinch.</b>	Paglinch Farm, Shoscombe Vale, Bath, Avon, BA2 8NQ (ST711557)	Steve Page: 01761 433418 Email: <a href="mailto:membership@coalcanal.org.uk">membership@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Tue 17 Apr 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>To be announced.</b> Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 18 Apr 2018 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	<b>"Canal &amp; River Trust Engineering a 200 Year Old Infrastructure."</b> Neil Owen discusses the way in which CRT are managing their Engineering Assets, including future improvement and the implication on the possible adoption of waterways managed by other Navigation Authorities.	Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Malcolm Brickwood: 07437 200021 Email: <a href="mailto:chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk">chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk">www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a>
Thu 19 Apr 2018 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>Waterspace Plus - Restoration</b> by Patrick Moss.	Radstock Working Men's Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547). For location <a href="#">see map here</a>	Steve Page: 01761 433418 Email: <a href="mailto:membership@coalcanal.org.uk">membership@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Sat 21 Apr 2018 12 noon	Wey & Arun CT	<b>Official completion of restoration of Gennets Bridge Lock.</b> Parking available at Loxwood North Hall and it is a short (but maybe muddy) walk to the lock. A map and souvenir brochure will be available from our publicity stand at Loxwood North Hall.	Gennets Bridge Lock (SU994494). Park at Loxwood North Hall, Guildford Road, Loxwood, West Sussex, RH14 0SF (TQ038320).	Trust Office: 01483 505566 Email: <a href="mailto:events@weyandarun.co.uk">events@weyandarun.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://weyandarun.org.uk/content/comp-etion-latest-lock-restoration-wey-arun-canal-trust">https://weyandarun.org.uk/content/comp-etion-latest-lock-restoration-wey-arun-canal-trust</a>
Sat 21 Apr 2018 2.30pm-5.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	<b>45th Annual General Meeting.</b> Members only.	Loxwood North Hall, Guildford Road, Loxwood, West Sussex, RH14 0SF (TQ038320).	Tel: 01483 894606 Email: <a href="mailto:events@weyandarun.co.uk">events@weyandarun.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://weyandarun.org.uk/events31">https://weyandarun.org.uk/events31</a>

## February Meeting

### “4000 Locks and Counting” - Tony Fry

Tony and Pauline hired their first pleasure cruiser in 1986, cruising from Napton to Market Harborough. Ten years later they enjoyed a half share in a 42ft narrow boat and enjoyed visiting the Kennet & Avon and Bath. Further afield they ventured next onto the Erewash and up to the Cromford Canal which was built in 1789. Pictures of the clock warehouse at Shardlow, the Swan at Fradley taken in 1971, Armitage tunnel, with maps & info of the Trent & Mersey.

Using their holidays and weekends they explored the canal system:

On the Montgomery, photo of the typical “penstock” gear at Belan lock, 186 miles this trip. Detail & pictures of Etruria Junction leading onto the Caldon Canal, built by James Brindley, featuring bottle kilns, a sculpture at Stockton Brook, the Leek Branch and Hazlehurst Aqueduct. This area is a favourite for Tony. On to Cheddleton Flint Mill, the lime kilns and tunnel at Froghall, Consall Station on the Churnet Valley Railway and a view of the Uttoxeter Canal taken in the 1990s. Down through the potteries and Harecastle Tunnel, 45 minutes to go through and it's worth looking at its fine portals.

Another trip on the Trent & Mersey, at Middlewich showing the Bisto factory alongside the salt works, which extracted 2,000 tons of salt per day from brine and making four million packs of Bisto each week (some

of the Works have now gone). Next though the 100 yards long Wardle Branch, the Lock and the former home of boat woman, the late Maureen Shaw, a lady always ready to chat while boats went through.

Moving on through Barbridge Junction and onto the Llangollen Canal at Hurleston Locks. These locks were fitted in the 1970 with low-g geared enclosed paddles. On to Wrenbury lift bridge and on the way looking at Ellesmere Tunnel. Tony discussed the trip through the Chirk Tunnel and over the Aqueduct and of course going over the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. 21 locks and three tunnels, he recommends a visit to this area in April/ May. On their way back before visiting the Prees Branch, they detoured at Frankton Junction onto the Montgomery Canal, where they visited the Weston Branch. A stone in memory of Graham Palmer, founder of the Waterways Recovery Group was pictured. Quiet moorings at the Queens Head is also worth a visit. Eventually this canal will lead on to Newtown

It is surprising how 4000 locks mount up over 32 years. A challenge now for other members to check their log books. A very relaxed, informative and well presented talk giving our members the time to get involved with their own experiences. During these 32 years Tony & Pauline have updated their boat to “Moon Shadow”.

*Angela Rose*

## Lock Counting

Inspired by last month's talk by Tony Fry, entitled 4000 Locks and counting, I was curious as to what might be the stats for my own cruising history. Having never maintained a specific cruising log, this presented a bit of a challenge, but a few hours work looking through old photographs proved an enjoyable investigation.

Looking through the photos of the various waterway locations made me consider the notional 4000 locks target. Assuming the normal allowance of 20 minutes per lock, this would result in a total time of more than 55, 24 hour days. Combine this with the normal rule of thumb that it might normally be expected to rain just as you reach the start of the lock flight, this potentially represents a long time standing in the rain,



© Gordon Osborn

*Branston Lock, Trent and Mersey Canal*

although the photographs only tend to record the sunny occasions.

Most of the time required to transit a lock is actually spent preparing the lock, waiting for the boat to enter or leave and a relatively short period actually filling or emptying the lock. However it is perhaps the short periods of waiting at a lock for the next process to start that provides the time to enjoy the lock location and perhaps exchange a few words with passing acquaintances, that are integral to the enjoyment of cruising.

The results of the investigation revealed my current cruising total to have just exceed the 4000 locks target, but I wonder who within the society has the greatest total?

*Gordon Osborn - Feb 2018*

## Elland Bridge re-build shortlisted for engineering award



*Official re-opening of Elland Bridge*

The reconstruction of Elland Bridge, which was catastrophically damaged in the 2015 Boxing Day floods, has been shortlisted by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) in its Yorkshire and Humber regional awards.

CRT worked with Calderdale Council to rebuild the bridge and reconnect the community as quickly as possible, with an extensive programme of works costing £4 million. The works, funded by the Department for Transport, involved the construction of two temporary bridges, relocation of over 40 utility services and the careful removal and eventual reinstatement of the original stonework on the new structure.

Built around 1811, the bridge is Grade II Listed, so the Trust's teams

painstakingly recorded and removed the masonry to make sure as much as possible could be used in the new bridge. This included the huge stone copings on top of the bridge, the voussoirs – dressed stones that form the arches – and the remains of cast iron rope rollers which ensured boat tow ropes would not get snagged as they were pulled through.

The new bridge was designed to look very similar to the original, preserving as many of the important historic features as possible, but incorporating the strength of a concrete arch. Now Elland canal bridge looks very familiar to local people, retaining the scale of the original and able to withstand the pressures of modern use.

The ICE Yorkshire and Humber awards showcase outstanding work by civil engineers across the region and will take place in Harrogate on 2nd March. The Elland Bridge Reconstruction has been shortlisted for the Smeaton Award (projects costing less than £5 million).

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news/> 7 February 2018

## IWA Raises Concern at Forth & Clyde closure

IWA has told Scottish Canals that the current indefinite closure of the Forth & Clyde Canal is unacceptable. Navigation has been effectively closed between two lift bridges at Twechar and Bonnybridge after their operation was suspended by SC, which announced on 1 February that it does not have the funds necessary to carry out repairs.

Scottish Canals stated: "The mechanisms of both bridges have been a cause of concern for some time but recent inspections show that they have now reached a point where we believe their operation could pose a risk to public safety.

"While we work up the technical solutions and source the funding required to implement the necessary repairs, we have no option but to temporarily suspend their operation."

IWA has written to Andrew Thin, Chairman of Scottish Canals, to ask him to identify budget and bring forward the repairs. National chairman Ivor Caplin said, "IWA wishes to see through navigation on the Forth & Clyde Canal reinstated as soon as possible."

The two lift bridges are situated around the middle of the Scottish lowlands canal, and their closure would affect all local traffic, the hire boat trade and any seagoing craft wishing to traverse the canal from one coast to the other.

The canal was restored to navigation in 2001 following National Lottery funding as a Millennium project. IWA considers that in order for Scottish Canals to fulfil its statutory requirement as navigation authority to keep the restored lowland canals in full working order, repairs to these two bridges should be carried out as a matter of urgency.

IWA has raised the following issues with Scottish Canals, and has asked for everything to be done to keep the closures as short as possible:

- The coast to coast through route across the lowlands of Scotland will not be available to sea going or inland craft for the duration of the closures.
- The hire boat trade will be impacted as hirers will only have one half of the Forth & Clyde Canal available to them. This will be likely to affect bookings for the hire fleet as many hirers will wait until the whole canal is open to them. Those who have already booked and planned to visit Glasgow may cancel, affecting the viability of the hire boat operation.
- Any boats based between the two bridges, such as those based at Auchinstarry Basin, will be trapped and unable to move until the bridges are repaired.

If the canal is closed for any significant amount of time, other structures such as nearby locks and other moveable bridges will deteriorate through lack of use, resulting in even more funds required for repairs in the future.

Over the past year there have been around 370 bridge openings at Bonnybridge and 125 at Twechar. With prescribed opening hours, and bridge opening times agreed in advance with transiting boaters, SC put as many vessels through a bridge, or lock, as possible, and the actual number of boats passing through will be greater than the number of bridge openings.

Some 4000 people a year go for a boating holiday on the lowland canals. The hire boats are based at Falkirk on the Forth & Clyde, and were recently the subject of a new partnership between Scottish Canals and three national hire boat fleets.

[https://www.waterways.org.uk/news\\_campaigns/](https://www.waterways.org.uk/news_campaigns/) and *Towpath Talk*, March 2018

## Government targets solid fuels in pollution purge

By Harry Arnold

Recently announced government proposals to reduce air pollution from open fires by introducing legislation to ban the sale of coal as a household fuel could affect boaters with stoves burning solid fuel.

Environment secretary Michael Gove is targeting home fires because they are the largest single source of particulates that contribute to lung and heart disease, apparently causing 29,000 early deaths a year. About 40% of particulates in 2015 came from this source - more than double the proportion from diesel cars.

Restrictions could also be placed on the burning of wet wood, a practice often seen on canal boats. A wood-burning stove can produce more particulates than a heavy goods vehicle.

During a smog episode in London during January 2017 half the toxic emissions in some areas came from domestic wood burning, due to the increasing popularity of stoves and open fires in houses and hotels. Mr Gove has called for increasing evidence on the use of house coal, smokeless fuel, manufactured solid fuels and wood. Stricter sulphur



Proposed government legislation could affect smoke emissions from solid fuel boat stoves.  
Photo: Waterway Images

limits are being considered for all smokeless solid fuels.

He is anxious not to ban stoves using properly seasoned and dried wood which is apparently partly a response to a plea from London Mayor Sadiq Khan, who wants powers to prohibit all wood burning in areas of poor air quality. Smoke from boats moored in London had been mentioned in Mr Khan's proposals.

In a press statement issued in the autumn the Mayor referred to the 'creation of zones where the burning of solid fuel is not allowed', which, along with the desire for more controls over boat emissions, could see areas where solid fuel stoves are banned on boats.

National Bargee Travellers Association chairman Marcus Trower responded, "For most people who live on a boat, a solid fuel stove is their only source of heat to beat back the cold in winter."

Will historic steamer *President* have to use smokeless fuel as a result of these proposals?

*Towpath Talk*, March 2018

## BSS fee rise

A NEW four-year business plan agreed by the Boat Safety Scheme (BSS) management committee includes the first price rise in certification charges for eight years. BSS examiners will pay a new price of £36 (excluding VAT) for each certification they issue to a boat, which is a £7 (ex VAT) rise that they will likely choose to pass on to customers. The

new price will apply from April 1, 2018 and the scheme intends holding it for at least the whole of the four-year business plan period, which is designed to coincide with the four-year lifespan of BSS certification.

*Towpath Talk*, March 2018

## Newbury school helps tackle litter on the waterways

Working with volunteers from CRT's education team, Year 4 pupils from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School learned all about how the waterways work and how they are looked after, and took part in a competition to design a sign encouraging visitors to take their litter home.

CRT spend around £1million each year removing litter and fly-tipped rubbish from the nation's waterways. This money could be better spent caring for the waterways and improving habitats for wildlife.

The two winning designs by Madison Slattery, aged nine, and Bethany Howell, aged ten, have now been made into permanent signs which have been put up at various places along the section of canal near London Road.

Caroline Robson, from the Canal & River Trust, said: "Our canals are not immune to the problem of litter and plastic pollution and it's about time that, as a community, we started to tackle this problem. Our waterways are fantastic places to visit throughout the year but the sight



Madison Slattery & Bethany Howell, St Josephs Primary School

of litter along the towpath and floating in the canal can really put visitors off, make the canals look unloved and harm local wildlife.

"People living in Newbury are really lucky to have a wonderful canal right on their doorstep and it's important we all work together to

ensure our waterways are welcoming places to come and relax and escape the hustle and bustle. With these lovely new signs, I hope it makes people think twice about dropping their litter and instead take it home or pop it in the bin so it can be recycled or disposed of properly."

Stephanie Kent, teacher at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, said: "All the school children had a lovely time learning all about our local canal and what we can do to help the Canal &

River Trust look after it. The competition to design new signs really grabbed the imagination of the whole class and I'm delighted we were able to help in some way to help keep our waterways special places to visit."

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news> 9 February 2018

## Boaters clear litter from K&A towpath

A GROUP of 10 liveaboard boaters have cleared around 25 bags of litter from the towpath of the Kennet & Avon Canal.

The team picked up rubbish from the towpath, hedges and ditches between Semington and Bradford on Avon Marina. The boaters also removed bulky items such as bicycles and rubble.

"It's obvious that all types of canal users leave rubbish behind. We can tell that dog walkers, cyclists, boaters, anglers and people who just like to come to the canal for a picnic all drop litter," said boater Pamela Smith.

"Others deliberately come to the canal to fly tip, such as the local householder who dumped rubble and left packaging with his name, address and mobile number on. We have contacted him! The Kennet and Avon canal is our home, please don't use it as a dump" she continued.

The boaters were helped by Canal & River Trust, who provided a skip to take away the rubbish that they collected.

<https://www.towpathstalk.co.uk/> 19 February 2018

## Further talks likely on EA transfer

IWA is extremely disappointed at the announcement from the Environment Agency that Defra has been unable to agree Canal & River Trust's recent proposal for taking over the navigations run by EA. At a meeting last week, the Defra Minister with responsibility for the Waterways, Dr Thérèse Coffey, informed IWA representatives that the transfer was still being considered subject to further talks to refine CRT's proposals. IWA has since received confirmation from Defra that Government remains receptive to a revised proposal from CRT and understands that the Minister has offered a further meeting with CRT.



Newbridge on the Thames - moving to CRT?

Photo: © Philip Halling (cc-by-sa/2.0)

IWA recognises the efforts of the Environment Agency to maintain its navigations within the limited government grant available and the lack of opportunity to attract the further funding that CRT can. IWA is particularly concerned that during this entire debate there has been no indication from government as to how sufficient and sustainable levels of funding will be provided for EA navigations if the transfer does not progress. With increased pressure on general EA budgets through Defra

and the need to prioritise other services such as flood control, the funding for navigation seems likely to decrease and navigation assets deteriorate further. There is evidence that if navigation structures such as locks, bridges and embankments are not maintained to a proper standard this could result in a major failure leading to lengthy closures of the navigation, damage to local economies, increased local flood risk and the need to expend large sums on remedial work.

IWA believes that these matters should be capable of resolution and that a transfer of EA navigations

remains the best way to ensure the future of these waterways with the minimum impact on the public purse. IWA urges Defra and CRT to continue negotiations towards a mutually acceptable solution and in the meantime we will focus on the matter which has always been our primary concern – that EA's navigations have sufficient funding to ensure their proper maintenance, and re-opening of those sections of navigation that have been closed until further notice.

[https://www.waterways.org.uk/news\\_campaigns/](https://www.waterways.org.uk/news_campaigns/) 5 February 2018

## 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 are normally held on the first Thursday of each month at 7.45pm (see Waterways Events in this issue) at Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. OS Grid Ref: SU410184. Contact the Secretary for further information.

This Newsletter is normally published during the first week of each month in time for the Society's meeting.

### President:

Brian Evans.

### Chairman:

Alan Rose, 33 Brackley Way, Totton, Hampshire, SO40 3HP. Tel: 02380 675312.  
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### Secretary:

Angela Rose, 33 Brackley Way, Totton, Hampshire, SO40 3HP. Tel: 02380 675312.  
Email: [alanjrose@btinternet.com](mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com)

### Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

Aelred Derbyshire, 31 Nelson Close, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 7DA. Tel: 01794 651350.  
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### Committee:

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**Society Website:** <http://www.sotoncs.org.uk>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/SouthamptonCanalSociety>

## Waterway Events (continued from page 2)

Date/Time	Organiser	Details	Venue	Contact
Thu 28 Apr 2018 7.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	<b>Branch AGM</b> all members welcome – followed by “Hapless in Holland”, a presentation by Rob Dean on his boating adventures in Holland.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	Email: <a href="mailto:newbury.chairman@katrust.org.uk">newbury.chairman@katrust.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://katrust.org.uk/events/">https://katrust.org.uk/events/</a>
Sat 28 Apr 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
<b>Thu 3 May 2018</b>	<b>Southampton CS</b>	<b>NO MAY MEETING. As always, there will be NO May Meeting.</b>		<b>Angela Rose: 02380 675312</b> Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Sat-Mon 5-7 May 2018 10.30am-4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>Early May Bank Holiday steaming.</b> Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a>
Sat 12 May 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Tue 15 May 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>? Joint meeting with IWA.</b> Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Sat 19 May 2018 2.00pm	Basingstoke CS	<b>40th Annual General Meeting</b> of the Surrey & Hampshire Canal Society Ltd. (aka The Basingstoke Canal Society). After the AGM there will be reports from the Chairmen of the Canal Society and Boat Company, presentation of the Robin Higgs Award and a talk by Richard Davenport of the Maidenhead Waterways Restoration Group.	Deepcut Village Centre, Swordsman Road, Deepcut GU16 6TB (SU908577).	Terry Inskip: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@basingstoke-canal.org.uk">secretary@basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk/">http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk/</a>
Sat-Mon 26-28 May 2018 10.30am-4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>Late May Bank Holiday steaming.</b> Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a>
Sat 26 May 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Fri-Sun 1-3 Jun 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	See it for Real Productions	<b>Beale Park Boat &amp; Outdoor Show 2018.</b> Open until 6.00pm Fri and Sat. See website for admission charges and attractions.	Beale Park, Lower Basildon, Reading, Berkshire RG8 9NW (SU618778).	Phone: 01296 631 273 Email: <a href="mailto:info@bealeparkboatandoutdoorshow.co.uk">info@bealeparkboatandoutdoorshow.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bealeparkboatandoutdoorshow.co.uk/">www.bealeparkboatandoutdoorshow.co.uk/</a>
<b>Thu 7 Jun 2018 7.45pm</b>	<b>Southampton CS</b>	<b>To be arranged.</b>	<b>Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).</b>	<b>Angela Rose: 02380 675312</b> Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Sat 9 Jun 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Tue 12 Jun 2018 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>Annual General Meeting (TBC)</b> by Patrick Moss.	Radstock Museum, Waterloo Rd, Radstock, BA3 3EP (ST689549). For location <a href="#">see map here</a>	Patrick Moss: 07736 859882 Email: <a href="mailto:chairman@coalcanal.org.uk">chairman@coalcanal.org.uk</a>