

Chairman's Column

May Meeting

As usual in recent years, there will be no May meeting as the hall is in use for the elections.

June Meeting

At our meeting on 6th June, Nick Grundy will be talking and showing pictures about the preparations and his exciting trip when, in his narrow boat "Beatty," he took part in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations on the River Thames.

Come and learn all about taking part in the event that the BBC **didn't** show you!

Spring brings thoughts of days out

At last! Spring and the sunshine has arrived and it is time to plan our holidays and days out.

This leads me on to mention the possibility of an interesting day out boating for you in September. The National Oceanography Centre, which operates out of Dock Gate 4 in Southampton, runs *MV Callista*. This ship's main work is on research combined with Southampton University.

The boat trip is for three hours around the Solent allowing us to bring up samples, from the sea bed, and

look into what the samples contain. We have spoken to a few people who have enjoyed this experience.

No food is on board but there is their Canteen which we are able to use afterwards.

Full details will be emailed, or posted out, during the next week or so.

Just to remind you

This is just a reminder of the Boat Gathering for boaters in the Napton/Braunston area.

An informal gathering at Flecknoe and Braunston will be held over the weekend of the early May Bank holiday (4th - 6th May).

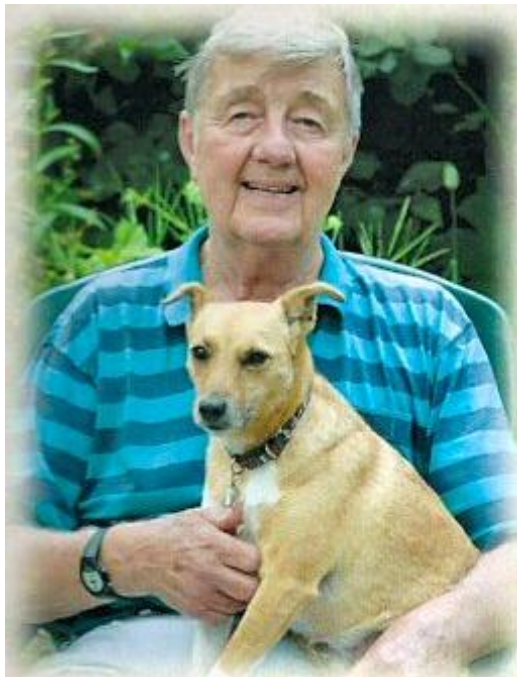
This is now **Next Weekend!!**

If any members with boats in that area would like to join us, could they please contact me as soon as possible? My mobile number is 07831 706411 or the home telephone number is listed on the back page of this Newsletter.

Angie and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible near Flecknoe on Saturday afternoon.

Alan Rose

Alan Howarth



As our Chairman announced at our April meeting, our long-standing member and Society Librarian, Alan Howarth, passed away peacefully at home on Good Friday. Alan had been unwell for some time though recently his condition had improved to the extent that he had been able to resume driving and, in an email to me in February, he said he hoped to return to Society meetings shortly. Sadly, it wasn't to be.

Despite her sad loss Adrienne came along to our April meeting, accompanied by her daughter, Judith.

Alan's funeral service, which was held at St Edward the Confessor Church in Chandler's Ford on 23 April, was attended by Society members Brian & Annegret Evans, Sue Derbyshire and Paul & Gill Herbert. (Alan and Angela Rose were unable to attend as they were out of the country). It was obvious from the large number who attended the service how liked and respected Alan was.

Our thoughts go to Adrienne and her and Alan's families on their sad loss.

Donations in memory of Alan to the RNLI may be sent to: Nigel Guilder, Funeral Director, Nathan House, 27 Hursley Road, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh.SO53 2FS

Paul Herbert

Walk along Itchen Navigation

Your editor, Peter Oates, will be leading an exploration of the Itchen Navigation in the Woodmill and Mansbridge areas on behalf of the Hampshire Field Club.

This walk will include an examination of part of a largely "dry" channel that runs parallel with the present river. One expert has said that this may be the remains of the "New River" referred to in a Saxon charter for the manor of South Stoneham dating from AD1045.

The walk will also look at the River Itchen near Gaters

Mill and at the remains of Mansbridge Lock before returning along the Navigation via Mans Bridge to Woodmill.

The walk will start at the car park at Woodmill beside the Navigation (nearest postcode: SO18 2JR) (OS Grid Ref: SU440151) at 2.00pm on Sunday 12 May 2013.

Please note that this will start at 2.00pm in the afternoon - **NOT** at 10.00am as announced at the Society's April meeting.

Peter Oates

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 2 May 2013	Southampton CS	There will be no meeting this month as the hall is in use for the elections.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Mon 6 May 2013 10.30am	Wilts & Berks CT	Wilts & Berks Sponsored Walk 2013 starting from The Buttercross in Chippenham town centre for 4 miles to the Bell Inn, Lacock and back. Entry is £4 per individual, family or youth group. Sponsorship form at http://www.wbct.org.uk/images/articles/pdf/branches/mcc/giftaidform2013-2.pdf	Peter Williams: 01249 652248 or 07745 825916 Email: peter.williams@wbct.org.uk
Sun 12 May 2013 2.00pm	Hampshire Field Club	Walk: An exploration of the Itchen Navigation in the Woodmill and Mansbridge areas led by Peter Oates. Meet at Woodmill car park beside the Navigation (nearest postcode: SO18 2JR) (SU440151). See item on page 4. Please note this is an afternoon walk.	Michael Broderick: Email: landscape.section@tiscali.co.uk
Thu 16 May 2013 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Narrow Boats to Norway" by Clive & Jill Field. The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR. (SU182275)	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover.3@btinternet.com Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Sun 19 May 2013 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Open Day - Timsbury & Paulton Basins. Guided walks around the area. Parking: Top of Hanham Lane (ST656570) or near Goosard Bridge (ST654576) (do not obstruct access to the Sewage Works).	Tony Yates: 07748 113832
Tue 21 May 2013 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Reading Past and Present - slides presented by David Copley. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry £2.50 to help pay for the meeting.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 22 May 2013 10.00am	Wey & Arun CT	2½ mile circular guided walk along canal towpath and through village of Loxwood to include visit to Brewhurst Mill. Cost £4, limit of 20 walkers - please book. Canal Centre, Loxwood, West Sussex, RH14 ORD (TQ041311)	Canal Centre: 01403 753999 Email: canalcentre@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Sun 2 Jun 2013 10.00am - 5.00pm	Chichester Priory Rotary Club	Dragon Boat races in the canal just south of the Basin to raise money for CancerWise. Parking at Chichester High School for Boys, Kingsham Road, Chichester, PO19 8AE. (SU862040)	Web: http://www.chichesterdragonboats.org.uk
Tue 4 Jun 2013 7.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT	Circular guided canal walk taking in the Wantage branch and part of main line between Grove and East Challow - distance about 3 miles and 2 hours. Start: The Sack House, Wantage Wharf, Mill Street, Wantage, OX12 9GW (SU396881). Donation of £2 appreciated. Wear suitable clothes /footwear.	Brian Stovold: 07946524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Thu 6 Jun 2013 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Nick Grundy will talk about preparing for the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant and about taking his narrow boat Beatty on the event itself. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Fri 7 - Sun 9 Jun 2013	The Child Beale Trust	Beale Park Boat Show, Beale Park, Lower Basildon, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 9NW (SU621780)	Boat Show team: 0118 9767498 Email: boatshowadmin@bealepark.co.uk Web: www.bealeparkboatshow.co.uk
Sun 9 Jun 2013	Wey & Arun CT	41st Annual Puddle (Sponsored Walk - up to 15 miles). Starting from Brinsbury Campus, beside the A29, 2 miles south of Billingshurst (RH20 1DL) (TQ067223) between 9am and 10.30am. Details and sponsorship form: www.weyandarun.co.uk/puddle/puddle2013/PuddleForm2013.pdf	Joanne and Kevin Holcombe: 01483 418195 Email: puddle@weyandarun.co.uk
Tue 11 Jun 2013 7.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT	Circular guided canal walk from Childrey Village Hall, Childrey, OX12 9UA (SU361875). About 2 hours. Donation of £2 appreciated. Wear suitable clothes /footwear.	Brian Stovold: 07946524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Sat 15 Jun 2013	Reading Boro Council	Reading Water Fest. On the River Kennet and in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BD) (SU718736).	Tel: 0118 937 2771
Sat 15 Jun 2013 2.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT	Circular guided canal walk from Ardington Church, OX12 8QA (SU432883). Distance about 6 miles allow 3+ hours. Donation of £2 appreciated. Wear suitable clothes /footwear.	Brian Stovold: 07946524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Sun 16 Jun 2013 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk: Carrying Coals to Dundas - 7. Monkton Combe to Dundas . Seventh of a series of walks to cover the length of the Northern Branch of the S.C.C. from Paulton to Dundas. Meet: Brassknocker Canal Centre car park BA2 7JD (ST782621)	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: mike@chapman76.fsnet.co.uk
Sun 16 Jun 2013 10.00am - 4.00pm	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society	Poyntz Bridge open Situated approx. 200 yards south of the canal basin, Chichester. Possibly the only working, single span 1820 cast iron swing bridge in the UK. At 2.00pm guided walk around the canal basin led by Alan Green. Chichester Canal Basin - PO19 8DT (SU859041)	Chichester Ship CT HQ & Shop: 01243 771363 Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk
Tue 18 Jun 2013 7.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT	Industrial Archaeology in the centre of Wantage - guided tour starting at The Sack House, Wantage Wharf, Mill Street, Wantage, OX12 9GW (SU396881). Around 1.5 hours. Donation appreciated.	Brian Stovold: 07946524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Thu 20 Jun 2013 10.00am	Wey & Arun CT	3½ mile circular guided walk along canal towpath and through village of Loxwood to include visit to Brewhurst Mill. Cost £4, limit of 20 walkers - please book. Canal Centre, Loxwood, West Sussex, RH14 ORD (TQ041311)	Canal Centre: 01403 753999 Email: canalcentre@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 20 Jun 2013 7.00pm	Chichester Ship CT	Talk on the history of the old Portsmouth and Arundel canal and an update on the restoration of the Chichester Canal from Chichester to the harbour. Tickets: £3.00 at door. Chichester Ship CT HQ & Shop, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU859041).	Chichester Ship CT HQ & Shop: 01243 771363 Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk
Sat 22 Jun 2013	Wey & Arun CT	Arun Boat Rally. Starts at Pulborough slipway (RH20 2BJ) (TQ046184) at 12pm.	Trust office: 01403 752403 Email: office@weyandarun.co.uk

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April Meeting

Itchen Navigation with Chris Humby

It was good to see so many members, friends and visitors at last month's meeting where Chris Humby talked about the Itchen Navigation.

The Bishopstoke History Society, of which Chris is a member, can trace the history of the river back over a thousand years. Chris showed us many maps, photographs and transcripts relating to the

river. He also talked about the details and history of the Itchen Navigation which included the old locks, boats and stories of the boat people's lives and their families.

The Itchen Navigation is now a very interesting area to walk and visit. Further details will be included in our later Newsletters.

Angela Rose

Waterways Diary

Continued from page 2

Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Sun 23 Jun 2013 10.00am - 5.00pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	Newbury Waterways Festival at Victoria Park, Newbury, RG14 2DW (SU473673).	Graham Smith: Tel: 01635 580356 Email: newbury.secretary@katrust.org.uk
Sun 23 Jun 2013 10.00am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society	A linear guided walk (approx 3 miles) along part of the old Portsmouth and Arundel Navigation, from Barnham Court Farm, Church Lane, Barnham, PO22 0BP (SU956034) to Ford. Parking at start.	Chichester Ship CT HQ & Shop: 01243 771363 Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk
Tue 25 Jun 2013 7.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT	Canal walk and exploration of the Grove Lock flight. Starts at layby off A338 between Oxford Lane and Grove Bridge, OX12 7NA (SU407902). About 2.5 miles, allow 2.5 hours. Donation of £2 appreciated. Wear suitable clothes /footwear.	Brian Stovold: 07946524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Thu 4 Jul 2013 7.45pm	Southampton CS	To be announced. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sat 6 Jul 2013 12.00 noon	National Trust	Guildford Festival Boat Gathering. Decorated boats parade in the pageant starting at 4pm and illuminated pageant at dusk. Millmead Island - River Wey - Guildford, GU1 3UX. (SU995491)	River Wey Navigations Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sun 7 Jul 2013 10.00am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society	A linear guided walk from Salters Lock by Chichester Marina, along the towpath to the basin in Chichester, seeing the engineering remains and points of interest along the way. Approx. 4miles. Parking available in the public car park at the Marina, PO20 7EJ . (SU835010)	Adge Roberts: 01903 721762 Email: adgeroberts@yahoo.co.uk
Tue 16 Jul 2013 7.30pm	The Bounty	Mikron Theatre presents "Beyond the Veil". The Bounty, Bourne End, Bucks, SL8 5RG. (SU890871) Food and refreshments available. A collection will be taken after the show.	The Bounty: 01628 520056 Web: www.thebountypub.com
Wed 17 Jul 2013 7.30pm	Ye Olde Dog and Badger	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." Ye Olde Dog and Badger, Ferry Lane, Medmenham, SL7 2HE. (SU803845) Food and refreshments available. A collection will be taken after the show.	Ye Olde Dog and Badger: 01491 571362 Web: www.thedogandbadger.com
Thu 18 Jul 2013 10.00am	Wey & Arun CT	1 mile circular guided walk along canal towpath and through village of Loxwood to include visit to Brewhurst Mill. Cost £4, limit of 20 walkers - please book. Canal Centre, Loxwood, West Sussex, RH14 ORD (TQ041311)	Canal Centre: 01403 753999 Email: canalcentre@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 18 Jul 2013 7.00pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Boules & BBQ. The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR. (SU182275)	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover.3@btinternet.com Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Thu 18 Jul 2013 7.30pm	Henley-on-Thames Allotments Assoc	Mikron Theatre presents "Beyond The Veil". Eyot Centre, Wargrave Road, Henley on Thames, RG9 3JD. (SU770820) Bring your own picnic, blanket and chairs. A collection will be taken after the show.	Eyot Centre: 01491 578658 Web: www.henleyallotments.org.uk
Sun 21 Jul 2013 7.30pm	The Rowbarge	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." The Rowbarge, Station Road, Woolhampton, Reading, RG7 5SH. (SU572664) Food and refreshments available. A collection will be taken after the show.	The Rowbarge: 0118 9712213 Web: www.brunningandprice.co.uk/rowbarge
Wed 24 Jul 2013 7.30pm	The Trout Inn	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." The Trout Inn, St John's Bridge, Faringdon Road, Lechlade On Thames, GL7 3HA. (SU223990) Food and refreshments available. A collection will be taken after the show.	The Trout Inn: 01367 252313 Web: www.thetroutinn.com
Fri 26 Jul 2013 7.30pm	Cricklade Bloomers	Mikron Theatre presents "Beyond The Veil". Cricklade Bloomers, High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AE. (SU100935) Refreshments available. Tickets (£10) available from The Council Office, Ockwells, 113 High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AE	Cricklade Town Council: 01793 751394 Web: www.crickladeinbloom.co.uk
Sat 27 Jul 2013 3.00pm	B&NES Allotments Association	Mikron Theatre presents "Beyond The Veil". Bloomfield Road Allotments, Bear Flat, Bath, BA2 2AB. (ST745637) Bring your own picnics, chairs and blankets. A collection will be taken after the show.	B&NES Allotments Association: 07867 532512 Web: www.banes-allotments.org.uk
Sun 28 Jul 2013 1.00pm	Basingstoke CS	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." Fleet Football Club, Calthorpe Park, Crookham Road, Fleet GU51 5FA. (SU803535).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: d.millett7@ntlworld.com
Sun 28 Jul 2013 7.30pm	Chichester Ship CT	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." Tickets £7.50 from 01243 576701 or on the door. Donnington Parish Hall, Stockbridge Road, Chichester, PO19 8QT (SU854034)	Linda Wilkinson: 01243 576701
Tue 30 Jul 2013 8.00pm	Waterfront Café	Mikron Theatre presents "Don't Shoot the Messenger." Waterfront Café, Benson Marina, Benson, OX10 6SJ. (SU613916) Tickets (£12) must be booked in advance. Food and refreshments available.	Waterfront Café: 01491 835631 Web: www.waterfrontcafe.co.uk
Wed 31 Jul 2013 7.30pm	The Oxford Science Park	Mikron Theatre presents "Beyond The Veil". The Oxford Science Park, Heatley Road, Oxford, OX4 4GE. (SP539021) Tickets £11.00 (£9.00 concs) on weekday mornings from Sadler Building Reception Tel: 01865 781 300 or online at www.mikron.org.uk . BBQ available 5.30pm - 7.15pm.	The Oxford Science Park: 01865 781300 Web: www.oxfordsp.com/news-mikron.asp

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.

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Brian Evans.

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Meetings:

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

Society Website:

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

Gloucester Waterways Museum in line for £1m revamp

ALMOST £1million of lottery funding could be on its way to Gloucester Waterways Museum.

The tourist attraction is developing a project to celebrate Gloucester Docks' contribution to the nation.

This week it found out the Heritage Lottery Fund has given it initial support of £60,700 to help improve its visitor experience.

The project, called From Birmingham to the Sea, will see the museum change its displays to tell the story of the River Severn and the canals from Sharpness to Birmingham.

Gloucester's role in supporting the industrial revolution in Birmingham will be a major part of the new story and will fit alongside the existing displays about life on the canals.

The work will also totally upgrade the learning experience at the museum and see one of the museum's heritage boats refitted to make it a learning and exhibition venue.

The initiative has been led by staff at the Canal & River Trust, and is backed by the Friends of Gloucester Waterways Museum.

If successful, the project will bring in almost £1million of lottery money to the museum.

Museum manager, Doreen Davies, said: "The Docks themselves were a vital link between the industrial heartland of Britain and the world.

"Unlike most canals of the time, ours was a ship canal with links to exotic parts of the world. Telling this story will extend the reach of the museum and bring our local heritage alive."

The museum has been housed in Llanthony Warehouse at Gloucester Docks since it was opened in 1988.

Debbie Lumb, from the Canal & River Trust, said: "These will be the first real changes to the story at the museum for many years and our staff and volunteers are over the moon."

<http://www.thisisgloucestershire.co.uk/>

Basingstoke Canal Reopened

True to their word, and despite some unhelpful weather, the Basingstoke Canal Authority achieved re-opening of all the locks in time for Easter. Unfortunately at Dogmersfield, just east of Odiham, a landslip on 25th March means that the westernmost couple of miles of the restored canal remain isolated for the time being.

The planned gathering of boats to cruise the length of the canal was slightly smaller than expected owing to strong flow on the Thames, which prevented some intended participant boats from getting any nearer to the canal than Brentford. Fifteen boats completed the full cruise along the length of the canal, to celebrate the re-opening for the first time in five years.

Following the substantial investment from Surrey and Hampshire County Councils, with more money to follow (a total of £4 million is being spent), the Basingstoke Canal is now in the best shape it has been for many years.

This follows sustained lobbying and volunteer work parties by Basingstoke (formerly Surrey & Hants) Canal Society, IWA, WRG volunteers, and local boat clubs.

The canal remains open whilst water supplies last, and it is incumbent on boaters to show the Councils that their investment has been worthwhile by paying a visit. Further work is being undertaken at Deepcut Flight and this was not due to fully reopen until 22nd April.



Basingstoke Canal reopening cruise Easter 2013, Leaving Deepcut Top Lock
Photo: © Ray Carnell 2013

IWA Bulletin April 2013