



Newsletter

Chairman's Column

As usual there is **NO MAY MEETING** as the hall is in use for elections

At last! We hope that spring and the sunshine will arrive soon, time to plan our holidays and days out.

By the time you receive this Newsletter our Flecknoe and Braunston get together will have taken place. See next month's newsletter for more details.

June 3th Meeting

This will be a two part evening: "The Claverton Pump" with George Eycott and Peter Dunn with his talk on the "Burbage Crane".

George and Peter are both well-known supporters of the Kennet & Avon Canal and are proud of their involvement in the rebuilds of these two great engineering projects.

Please come and support this evening.

July 7th Meeting

This is our Annual General Meeting and this will be followed by Cheese and Wine and a natter.

August Meeting

There will be **NO August meeting** as the hall is closed for maintenance.

September 1st Meeting

A talk about "Industrial Archaeology within the New Forest" will be given by James Brown from the New Forest National Parks Authority.

Hear about the past and future of the park, ice houses, fire blackened stones, churchyards with history; heritage on our doorstep.

Thank you all for your support.

Alan Rose

Engineers start to dismantle flood-hit bridge

Engineers have started the careful job of taking down Elland Bridge on the Calder & Hebble Navigation, which is being rebuilt after the Boxing Day floods caused catastrophic damage.

The work can now get underway as utility companies have recently completed work to divert important services such as electricity cables, gas pipes and telecoms wires, which were carried on the bridge. These services now cross the waterway via a specially constructed temporary bridge.

Built in around 1811, Elland Bridge is Grade II listed and contractors are taking a sensitive, methodical approach to the works. Important features are being carefully removed and catalogued so that they can be re-used in the replacement bridge.

These include the huge stone copings on the top of the bridge, the dressed stones over the arches (known as voussoirs) and the remains of cast iron rope rollers which allowed boat tow ropes to run smoothly through the bridge back in the days when freight barges were pulled by horse.

A stronger bridge

The new bridge has been designed to look similar to the existing one but with a strengthened

concrete arch inside it. The result will be a stronger bridge, built to modern standards whilst still reflecting the history of the canal.

Judy Jones, heritage advisor for the Canal & River Trust, said: "It's sad to see the bridge being taken down but this is an important step in reinstating the link across the canal for local people.

"Research has shown that the bridge was built just over 200 years ago as an extension to the river bridge and so has great historical interest. With this in mind it's not just a case of going in with a wrecking ball, we're taking a careful approach to preserve as many of the important features as possible so that they can be put in place on the new bridge.

"As a result the new bridge should look familiar to local people, retaining the scale of the existing bridge and boasting some of the historical features."

Once the bridge has been taken down then works to build new foundations will begin. When these are completed, around the end of June, the canal beneath the bridge will be reopened to boaters while the remaining works take place.

canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/

In this issue

Chairman's Column.....	1
Bits and Pieces	1
Engineers start to dismantle flood-hit bridge.....	1
Waterways Events	2 & 4
April Meeting	3
Boaters march to protect their homes.....	3
Tim and Pru's Canal Journeys	3

Bits and Pieces

Youngest senior master

THE youngest senior master in the history of *PS Waverley*, is at the helm for the iconic paddler's 2016 season.

Ross Cochrane, (29), who hails from Coleraine, is also the first Irishman take charge of the ship. He succeeds Captain Andy O'Brian who stood down after 10 years to take up a post with Clyde Pilots.

Ross started his career with P&O Cruises at Southampton in 2004, did his initial qualifications at Warsash Maritime Academy, and joins the world's last sea-going paddle ship from P&O where he held the rank of navigator. He gained his master's certificate at Glasgow Maritime Academy and brings extensive sea-going experience to *Waverley*.

www.towpathtalk.co.uk/

Bags for Canal Trust

CELEBRATIONS are in order for Stover Canal Trust after it bagged £10,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

The supermarket teamed up with Groundwork to launch its Bags of Help initiative, which saw grants of £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 — all raised from the 5p bag levy — being awarded to environmental and greenspace projects.

The trust has been awarded £10,000, which means it can begin work on bringing its Graving Dock Lock restoration project to life.

www.torquayheraldexpress.co.uk/

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	Contact
Tue 3 May 2016 2.00-6.00pm	National Trust	This will involve a trip on the Trust's electric boat to Millmead Lock and a tour of the Toll House where the Guildford Borough Council Hydro Project harnesses the power of the River Wey using a reinstated turbine. Return trip to Dapdune followed by tea & cake. Cost £12.00 (Booking essential). Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU993502).	Navigation Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Thu 5 May 2016	Southampton CS	There will be NO May Meeting as the hall will be used for local Elections	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Wed 11 May 2016 12.00-1.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "The life of a bargee" - a historical talk based around canal life. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone. Talk repeated in May and June.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/the-life-of-a-bargee/
Sun 15 May 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - for details please contact Mike Chapman.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 17 May 2016 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The History of Salter's Steamers" - Dr. Simon Wenham. Joint meeting with IWA . Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718). £2.50 (incl K&A members) to help pay for room hire.	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 18 May 2016 12.00-1.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "An Idle around Ironbridge" - a visual tour around the World Heritage site. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone. Talk repeated in June.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/talks-idle-around-ironbridge/
Thu 19 May 2016 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Waterway Recovery Group." George Eycott who looks after plant and machinery for WRG, will tell us about the activities of this group who can always be recognised by their red T shirts and hard hats! 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 22 May 2016	Wey & Arun CT	Annual Pulborough Boat Rally to Pallingham Quay. Launch from Pulborough slipway from 1.30pm or Stopham bridge (suitable for canoes only). Book online at https://weyaran.org.uk/drupal/pulboroughboatrally or email for form.	Email: rallies@weyandarun.co.uk Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/latestnews.php?id=%20100
Wed 25 May 2016 12.00-1.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "The life of a bargee" - a historical talk based around canal life. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone. Talk repeated in June.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/the-life-of-a-bargee/
Wed 1 Jun 2016 8.00-10.00pm	National Trust	Evening owl walk. A chance to spot some of the owls that live along the River Wey Navigation whilst they're out hunting. A circular walk around the Papercourt Meadows area. Free event, but normal admission charges apply for the venue. Booking essential. Further details from NT. Meet at the Tannery at Send Business Park	Booking and details: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk Web: http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events/d24dc5a7-5480-44e2-8035-c4b670592c2a/pages/details
Thu 2 Jun 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"The Claverton Pump" with George Eycott and Peter Dunn with his talk on the "Burbage Crane". Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Fri 3 Jun 2016 12.00-1.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "An Idle around Ironbridge" - a visual tour around the World Heritage site. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone. Talk repeated later in June.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/talks-idle-around-ironbridge/
Fri 3 - Sun 5 Jun 2016 10.00am - 6.00pm	See it for Real Productions	Beale Park Boat & Outdoor Show. Beale Park, Lower Basildon, Reading, Berkshire RG8 9NW (SU618781). For ticket prices see website.	Web: http://www.bealeparkboatandoutdoorshow.co.uk/
Sun 5 Jun 2016	Wey & Arun CT	"The Poddle" - WACT's annual sponsored walk. It is hoped that the route of this year's Poddle will include Compasses Bridge and Gennets Bridge Lock, both currently under construction.	Margaret Darvill: 01483 894606 Email: Margaret_Darvill@weyandarun.co.uk Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/events2.php
Sat 11 Jun 2016 11.00am - 5.00pm	Reading BC and Kennet & Avon CT	Reading Water Fest. River Kennet, Forbury Gardens and Chestnut Walk, RG1 3AH. (SU719734)	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.
Sun 12 Jun 2016 10.00am-3.00pm	Chichester Rotary Club	Dragon Boat Racing. Chichester Ship Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041).	Web: http://www.chichesterdragonboats.org.uk/
Sun 12 Jun 2016 9.00-11.00am	National Trust	Take part in National Moth Night by joining our lengthsman, Emma, when she opens her moth trap to study the night's finds. Bring your cameras but not your dogs, please. Enjoy some home made cake while identifying the moths trapped. £2.50 inc coffee/tea and cake. Booking essential. Meet at Walsham Lock on the River Wey, near Pyrford, GU22 8XE (TQ050578)	Booking and details: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk Web: http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events/b5624691-1b55-4f7a-b8d1-a352323cca6a/pages/details

Continued on page 4

April Meeting “Flying Boats of Southampton” with Colin Van Geffen

The story of “the ships in the sky” began in 1913 when Noel Pemberton-Billing setup his company, Pemberton-Billing Limited at Woolston. His aim was to produce flying boats, notably the AD and Baby. Due to his other commitments and becoming a Member of Parliament in 1916, he sold the company to Hubert Scott-Paine who renamed the company the Supermarine Aviation Company Limited. During the First World War the company continued to build aircraft and flying boats for the Admiralty Department.

After the First World War, Scott-Paine concentrated his efforts on producing flying boats for passenger use. He purchased sixteen AD flying boats from the Royal Navy and converted them for civil use. Colin showed a picture of the crew taking a tot of rum to keep the cold out on one flight.

In 1920, R J Mitchell had joined the Company, when the Air Ministry announced it would hold a competition for commercial aircraft. R J Mitchell designed the Supermarine Amphibian, which came second to the Vickers Viking, winning a prize of £8,000 for Supermarine.

In 1923 Mitchell designed a six-seater flying boat called the Supermarine Sea Eagle. It flew from Woolston to the Channel Isles and France, thus making Southampton the first international airport in the World. We were shown various pictures of the Customs floating pontoons and views of the Woolston yards.

Scott-Paine sold Supermarine in 1924 when the Company began to focus on more military projects. The same year saw the formation of Imperial Airways which was an amalgamation of four companies, namely British Marine Air Navigation, Daimler Airway, Handley Page Transport and Instone Airline, to combat the competition from overseas national airlines. This ensured that civil flights continued to

fly from Southampton Docks, with a maintenance base at Hythe.

The twenties and thirties saw gradual development resulting in the larger DH50 flying boats with three engines, hopping to the far outposts of the British Empire: Singapore, Calcutta, Australia. Their primary function was the transport of Royal Mail.

In 1936/37 the Empire Flying boats M3 Bermuda were fitted with bunks: luxury and first class travel was here. Trains from Waterloo to Southampton, an overnight stay at the South Western Hotel, then ready for the six am flight from Berth 50 at the Eastern Dock. Sea travel to Australia took six weeks, whilst Imperial Airways flew there in eight days with Qantas flying the last leg.

1939 saw the first Pan-Am flying boat arriving from the United States via the Azores. Experiments with in-flight refuelling showed the hose being manually connected by leaning over and out to connect up.

The talk ended up with photos of various flying boats in Southampton Water and around the world, some looking very precarious against rocky landings. Questions were asked about the Catalina accident and what happened to the Princess flying boat at Calshot and the Aquila floating pontoon?

A quiz followed about film stars and famous people who had arrived in Southampton by flying boat: John Mills, Winifred Attwell, Terry Thomas, Denis & Margaret Thatcher on their honeymoon, Peter Butterworth, Sir Winston Churchill and Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth in 1953. This did show our ages!

A very interesting and historical local talk. PS Our neighbour as a young lad helped to keep the debris clear of the flying boats during their take off.

Angela Rose

Boaters march to protect their homes

MORE than 200 liveaboard boaters marched to Downing Street on April 16 to hand in a petition against the Canal & River Trust’s (CRT) policy which they claim threatens travelling boat dwellers (boats without a home mooring) with restricted licences and even eviction.

They were also demonstrating over the need for more mooring rings and more facilities such as water taps and sewage points.

The British Waterways Act 1995 is the law that governs boats without a home mooring on CRT waters but, say boaters’ representatives, this policy goes beyond this Act which does not contain any requirements to travel a minimum distance or to follow any specific pattern of movement. The Act clearly states that boats without a home mooring must be navigating and must not stay in one place for longer than 14 days.

Signed by more than 27,000 people, the Boats are Homes petition

asks the Government to put pressure on CRT to end its policy.

According to National Bargee Travellers Association (NBTA) figures, since the policy was introduced (in May 2015) to March 2016, 1130 boats without a home mooring were given a restricted licence. During the first six months of the policy in London alone, almost one in four boats without a home mooring (295/1225) were given a restricted licence.

A spokesperson for NBTA said: “Due to Canal River and Trust’s (CRT) policy, people are leaving their way of life as travelling boat dwellers. Many in our community feel that the CRT is trying to force us off the waterways. We are under increasing strain due to the CRT’s policies.

‘However, today we have shown that we will stand together. We are fighting for our homes and our way of life.’

www.towpathtalk.co.uk/boaters-march-to-protect-their-homes/

affordable alternatives to bricks and mortar. Not that they necessarily are cheap to live in but Joe Coggins of the Canal River Trust, the charity that took over from British Waterways in England and Wales, confirms that living on a boat is more popular than ever.

“There has been a huge rise but it is a lifestyle and people should be aware of the amount of work you have to put in,” he says. “It is like having a part-time job in terms of moving it and emptying it,” he adds, referring to the less than savoury process of emptying the toilet and waste water tanks.

As Joe Coggins will tell you: “The good thing about living on a boat is when you wake up you have got swans and ducks going past your window.”

www.express.co.uk/life-style/property/657663/

Tim and Pru’s Canal Journeys

AROUND two million people tune in to watch Timothy West and Prunella Scales on their Great Canal Journeys around Britain and Europe, earwiggling as these national treasures put the world to rights and check to see if it’s wine o’clock yet.

Viewers describe them as inspirational and report they have booked boating holidays on the strength of the Channel 4 show. No wonder the number of people messing about on boats along Britain’s canals is on the rise.

In 2005 there were 25,745 boat licences issued but last year the figure was up to 32,733 and although many are issued for leisure purposes, increasingly house boats and narrow boats are seen as

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) 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.
Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

Secretary:

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

Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

Aelred Derbyshire, 31 Nelson Close, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 7DA.
Tel: 01794 651350. Email: aelred41@sky.com

Committee:

David Townley-Jones, Sue Derbyshire, Gordon Osborn

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:

Peter Oates, 8 Field View, Braunston, Daventry, Northants, NN11 7JS.
Tel: 01788 890102. Email: scs@sotoncs.org.uk

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

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

Waterways Events (continued from page 2)

Thu 16 Jun 2016 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Serve On" is a non-profit humanitarian organisation that responds to disasters both at home and abroad and based in Salisbury. Craig Elsdon will talk about the vital work carried out by the group. 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
Fri 17 Jun 2016 12.00-1.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "The life of a bargee" - a historical talk based around canal life. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone. Talk repeated on 30 June.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/the-life-of-a-bargee/
Sun 19 Jun 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - for details please contact Mike Chapman.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 23 Jun 2016 2.00-3.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "An Idle around Ironbridge" - a visual tour around the World Heritage site. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/talks-idle-around-ironbridge/
Sun 26 Jun 2016	Wilts & Berks CT	Canal Heritage Walk organised by Melksham, Chippenham and Calne Branch. No further details available at present.	Web: http://www.wbct.org.uk/home/full-calendar/icalrepeat.detail/
Thu 30 Jun 2016 2.00-3.00pm	Arun Talks & Chichester Ship CT	Talk: "The life of a bargee" - a historical talk based around canal life. Chichester Ship Canal Visitor Centre, Canal Basin, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU858041). Space limited to 25 per talk - booking is recommended, £3 per person payable on the day. To reserve place, please email or phone.	Clive and Sue Fennell: 07523 486369 Email: aruntalks1@gmail.com Web: http://chichestercanal.org.uk/the-life-of-a-bargee/
Tue 5 Jul 2016 2.00-6.00pm	National Trust	This will involve a trip on the Trust's electric boat to Millmead Lock and a tour of the Toll House where the Guildford Borough Council Hydro Project harnesses the power of the River Wey using a reinstated turbine. Return trip to Dapdune followed by tea & cake. Cost £12.00 (Booking essential). Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU993502).	Navigation Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Thu 7 Jul 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Annual General Meeting and this will be followed by Cheese and Wine and a natter. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 17 Jul 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - for details please contact Mike Chapman.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Sat 23 Jul 2016 11.00am-16.00pm	National Trust	Puffing-a-Wey. Steam Boat Association return with their steam powered craft. Take a short boat trip with one of the members. Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU993502).	Navigation Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sat 23 - Sun 24 Jul 2016	Kennet & Avon CT	Newbury Waterways Festival, Victoria Park, Newbury, RG14 5AU (SU473672). Main public event on Sunday 24th.	Julie Dean Email: juliedean@btinternet.com
Thu 4 Aug 2016	Southampton CS	There will be NO August Meeting as the hall will be closed for maintenance.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sat 6 - Sun 7 Aug 2016	Basingstoke CS & Historic Narrow Boat Club	Woking Canal Festival, Brookhouse Common, Woking, Surrey, GU21 5BP (TQ008593). Celebrating 50th anniversary of the foundation of both of the organising groups. And 25 years since formal re-opening of the canal. Parking in town centre car parks. Public transport recommended.	Roger Cansdale: 01252 678608 Web: www.WokingCanalFestival.info Email: roger.cansdale@ntlworld.com
Sun 21 Aug 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - for details please contact Mike Chapman.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 1 Sep 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Industrial Archaeology within the New Forest" by James Brown from the New Forest National Parks Authority. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Fri 2 Sep 2016 6.30 - 10.00pm	Kennet & Avon CT	Carnival on the Canal, Devizes Wharf, SN10 1EB (SU004617).	K&ACT, Devizes Wharf: 01380 721279 Web: http://katrust.org.uk/events/