



Newsletter

Chairman's Column

6th November Meeting

This evening let us all give a very warm welcome back to Pete, Jane and George of the Day-Star Theatre with their performance of "A Bad Penny". Sit back and enjoy living in 1964.

After the performance we will, as usual be enjoying an American Supper, kindly brought along by our members.

4th December Meeting

A reminder that the Annual Inter-Society Waterways Quiz will be taking place on Thursday 4th December. As last year's winners, Guildford & Reading will be organising the Quiz.

SCS members as hosts, look forward to meeting up with our friends from the challengers IWA Salisbury and a new team from the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust, Devizes Branch led by Elaine Kirby, archivist for the K&A Trust.

The evening concludes with the traditional pre-Christmas occasion of an American Supper.

Most importantly we need you to volunteer for our SCS team!! Revision notes and homework will be offered?? (if needed).

New Year Lunch

Time to make enquiries regarding our New Year seasonal lunch. Early Days yet but possibly looking at Saturday 10th January 2014. We noticed that the Blue Hayes Restaurant is under "New Ownership" we will investigate!

Please indicate to Angela if you are interested.

Thank you all again for supporting your Society.

Alan Rose

WRG launches new 'Building Bridges' Project

Have you walked along a canal and noticed a bridge in need of a bit of TLC ... or have you cruised past a bridge that needs repointing, repainting or even reconstruction?!

The [Building Bridges Project](#) is a joint initiative by [Waterway Recovery Group](#) (WRG) and [Canal & River Trust](#), which aims to enable volunteers to carry out minor, and some more major, repairs to canal bridges in desperate need of restoration, giving local people and communities the chance to come together and look after a structure on a section of canal or waterway!

WRG is encouraging local organisations such as community groups or residents' associations to undertake more technical restoration work along their local waterways. It is hoped WRG's new leaflet '[Building Bridges – A guide for volunteers carrying out restoration work on waterway bridges](#)' will help volunteer groups through the process ensuring the work is planned, and everyone has a safe and fun experience!

Richard Parry, Chief Executive of CRT says "Our partnership with WRG makes a positive impact on both navigable waterways and those still under restoration. Since the launch of the Trust we have been developing new ways of working together, and have placed the role of volunteers at the centre of our approach. This document is a superb planning tool that will help both our own

teams and the wider waterways community when working on more complex and ambitious projects."

Volunteers can do many things to help preserve or restore a waterways bridge. In October 2014, local residents from Black Jack's Lock Residents Association were the first group to take part in the Building Bridges Project, spending four days repointing Bridge 178 on the Grand Union Canal near Harefield. Volunteers also gave the lock gates and lock furniture a makeover by repainting everything. Residents will return later on in the year to repaint the white bridge – finally restoring it to its former glory. Click [here](#) to see photos.

Miles Hendley, Chairman of the Residents Association said "We've been concerned at the state of the bridge and lock for some time but didn't know how to go about restoring it. I then read about WRG volunteers restoring Lady Capel's Bridge on the Grand Union Canal, near Watford and thought it was something the residents of Black Jacks could get involved in. Working with WRG and CRT has been a great experience – I can't wait until we all get together again to repaint the bridge and complete the makeover!" Click [here](#) to find out more about the Building Bridges Project and how to get involved!

WRG Press Release 23 October 2014

In this issue

Chairman's Column	1
Bits and Pieces	1
WRG launches new 'Building Bridges' Project	1
Waterways Events	2, 4
October Meeting	3
Peasants revolt over canal	3
Calor Gas Ltd Recalls 6kg Calor Lite® Cylinders	3
GaugeMap	4

Bits and Pieces

New Thames Bridge

Work was due to start in October on a new £5.9m pedestrian and cycling bridge across the River Thames in Reading.

The 394ft (120m) bridge is being built to give dedicated access for walkers and cyclists between Caversham and Reading Station and the town centre.

The bridge will sit to the east of Fry's Island, between the existing Caversham and Reading Bridges.

Reading Borough Council said the steel bridge will be opening by summer 2015.

Archive pictures now online

The Canal & River Trust has published online over 37,000 archive records and over 22,000 historic images from its archives for the first time ever.

The £50,000 project is the first phase of a major project to open up public access to the national waterways collection.

The Waterways Archive is housed at the National Waterways Museum, Ellesmere Port and is the largest archive of waterway-related materials in the country. This important collection is being made available online at <http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/archive>

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
Thu 6 Nov 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Day-Star Theatre will be presenting "A Bad Penny" to be followed by an American Supper. Further details on page 4. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Tue 18 Nov 2014 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The Cotswold Canals" by Liz Payne & Christmas eats and drinks. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 19 Nov 2014 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The Wilts and Berks Canal - The Most Ambitious Restoration." Chris Coyle will include a brief history of the canal, an overview of the restoration project, covering the reasons for it, what has been done so far, the challenges ahead and the plans for some major projects in the near future. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 20 Nov 2014 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Barging on North East Waterways" with Nick Grundy. In the late 1970s and early 80s Nick did a number of trips as crew on a 300 ton commercial barge, carrying cargoes on the main waterways in the North East. He will tell us about his experiences of commercial barging "Where Time & Tide Wait for No Man." 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 20 Nov 2014 7.00pm for 7.30pm	Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust	"Watermills of the Sussex Ouse and its Tributaries" by Colin Smith, co-author of the "Sussex Watermills" books. Joint meeting with IWA Kent & East Sussex Branch. Upper Room, Perrymount Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 3DN (TQ331243) (near the railway station and 200 yards from Clair Hall).	Hazel Lintott: 01444 414 413 Email: info@sxouse.org.uk Web: http://www.sxouse.org.uk/
Thu 20 Nov 2014 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Social Evening. TBA. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Wed 26 Nov 2014 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	"Wonderful Wildlife of the K&A" (tbc). It is hoped to have a speaker describing the wonderful wildlife of the K&A and the work underway to ensure the River Kennet is a good environment for wildlife. Stone Building, Wharf Road, Newbury RG14 5AS (SU472671). Free entry. Car parking £1.00.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Mon 1 Dec 2014 7.30pm	Wilts & Berks CT	"The Claverton Pumping Station - history and restoration" by George Eycott. Church Hall, United Reform Church, Wood Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7BD (SU065826).	Cheryll Yeowell: 01793 812708 Email: cheryll.yeowell@wbct.org.uk Web: http://www.wbct.org.uk/home/
Thu 4 Dec 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Waterways Quiz organised by last year's winners - IWA Guildford & Reading. To be followed by an American Supper. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 11 Dec 2014 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Christmas Dinner. 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
Wed 17 Dec 2014 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"A Day in the Life of a Thames Tug" by Richard Thomas. He will talk about Cory tug General VIII, which moved refuse lighters for between Wandsworth and Mucking in Essex and the effects of the closure of the dumping ground at Mucking in 2010. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 18 Dec 2014 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"Coal from Camerton Part 1" by Mike Chapman. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Sat 20 Dec 2014 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk around Camerton led by Mike Chapman. Further details from Mike.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 8 Jan 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Our members' annual "Waterways Photographic Evening and Competition". Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 15 Jan 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Coal from Camerton Part 2" by Mike Chapman. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Tue 20 Jan 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	TBA. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 21 Jan 2015 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	John Gibson - "The National Trust and the Wey Navigations". John, manager of the Wey, will talk about the history of the Wey Navigations and the half century since the Trust's acquisition of the Navigations in 1964. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Wed 28 Jan 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	"The Wey Navigations" by John Gibson. Stone Building, Wharf Road, Newbury RG14 5AS (SU472671). Free entry. Car parking £1.00.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Sun 1 Feb 2015 10.00	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk led by Mike Chapman. Further details from Mike.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 5 Feb 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"The River Lee from Luton to Old Ford Lock, London" with Richard Thomas. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

Continued on page 4

October Meeting

“Memories of the Great War” with Geoff Watts

Local historian Geoff Watts presented a very well researched talk on the Great War of 1914-1918.

Geoff led us from the dispatch cyclists to other various means of communications.

He gave brief details of some servicemen that had lost their lives in action including Rudyard Kipling’s son John who was a Lieutenant in the Irish Guards and Ellis Humphries and Rupert Brooks who were both WW1 poets.

We saw and discussed War Graves in both France and England. In 1960 on Cannock Chase a new six acre site was given for the [German Military Cemetery](#) which contains some 5,000 graves of German nationals, both servicemen and civilians who lost their lives in the United Kingdom during the two World Wars.

We also learnt about The [National Memorial Arboretum](#) at Alrewas which is a national site of remembrance that honours the fallen, recognises service and sacrifice and fosters pride in our country.

More locally, a “war horse,” a grey gelding named Warrior, that served throughout the war in France was returned to Southampton after the war. He died in 1935 aged 26 and his grave is on the 9th green at the Sports Centre.

A [memorial plaque](#) to the Old Contemptibles can be seen on the wall of Dock Gate 4.

We looked at silk embroidered cards and medals from WW1 brought along by one of our members.

We were shown a picture of the Next of Kin Memorial Plaque, or “Dead Man’s Penny,” which was a small bronze plaque issued after the First World War to the next-of-kin of all British and Empire service personnel who were killed as a result of the war. This was accompanied by a Scroll.

This finished off a very interesting and informative evening for nineteen members.

Angela Rose

Peasants revolt over canal

HE CHAMPIONED the poor during his country’s civil war, but Daniel Ortega, the Nicaraguan president, may be about to taste life on the other side of the battlefield as peasant farmers threaten an armed revolt against a Chinese-backed project to dig a canal across their land. Construction is due to start in December 2014.

Campesinos who once supported Ortega’s Sandinista rebels have vowed to fight and die rather than be forcibly removed from their land along the 173-mile route of the waterway intended to link the central American country’s Caribbean and Pacific coasts.

Hong Kong Nicaragua Development (HKND), a Chinese company owned by Wang Jing, 41, a telecoms billionaire, has been awarded sole concession rights to build the canal, designed to handle a new generation of supertankers too big for the Panama canal.

The proposed canal will be able to accommodate ships of up to 250,000 tons - more than double the size of the vessels that will be able to pass through the 100 year old Panama Canal even after its current enlargement which is due to be completed in 2016.

Ortega says the project will lift Nicaragua out of extreme poverty. Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere after Haiti, with half the population surviving on a dollar (60 pence) a day.

Former Sandinistas, however, see it as a “betrayal” of their left-wing revolution, accusing the Ortegas of in effect selling the country to a foreign power: HKND refuses to identify its backers, but these are assumed to be companies owned by China.

In Cruz Verde, which lies along the expected route of the canal, surveyors were chased away by machete-wielding farmers who see Ortega as a “traitor”.

Concern for Lake Nicaragua, the largest freshwater deposit in Central America, is another rallying point. The lake will have to be dredged to 100ft - more than double its present depth - to allow supertankers to travel across it from one part of the canal to the other. The canal risks contaminating the lake, home to fresh water sharks, sawfish, and turtles, with salty sea water, and any oil spill could inflict irreparable damage. The lake is an important drinking water supply and the fish sustain local economies.

The government denies any problem. “People’s worries are natural but we are going to pay a fair price [for their land],” said a government spokesman. “The canal poses no risk to Nicaragua’s sovereignty, nor are there political or military risks. It is a canal for peace.”

[The Sunday Times](#), [The Guardian](#) and [The Telegraph](#), 26 October 2014

Calor Gas Ltd Recalls 6kg Calor Lite® Cylinders

Calor Gas Ltd has issued an immediate product recall on all 6kg Calor Lite® cylinders manufactured between 2008 - 2011 inclusively, following concerns regarding the potential deterioration of the cylinder.

A small number of 6kg Calor Lite® cylinders have been found to be showing signs of premature internal deterioration which over time could potentially lead to a gas escape.

Any 6kg Calor Lite® cylinders manufactured in 2008, 2009, 2010 or 2011 should be returned to a 6kg Calor Lite® retail outlet immediately. Cylinders manufactured outside of this date range are unaffected and safe to use as are cylinders from 2008-11 that have already been checked. These are marked with a hole punched into the flat metal tare disc that sits on top of the cylinder just below the valve.

The date of manufacture of the cylinder can be found in two places on the cylinder base ring:



- Firstly adjacent to the words ‘Property of Calor Gas Ltd’ there is a box in which there are two letters, then two numbers which denote the year of manufacture i.e. 08, 09, 10, or 11, followed by one letter.

- In addition, at the very bottom of the base ring the third row of text shows the date of manufacture i.e. 2008, 2009, 2010 or 2011.

Boaters can find the nearest 6kg Calor Lite® retail outlet by using the ‘Find-a-Stockist’ facilities at the [Calor Gas Ltd website](#). Boaters returning a cylinder from the critical period, will be given for free, a full replacement 6kg Calor Lite® cylinder.

Further information about the recall can be found at the [Calor Gas Ltd website](#) including help on identifying the date of manufacture. Alternatively, there is a dedicated 6kg Calor Lite® team that can be contacted on 0800 783 4141.

[IWA Bulletin Mid-October 2014](#)

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: aelred.d@virgin.net

Committee:

David Townley-Jones, Sue Derbyshire, Gordon Osborn

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:

Peter Oates, 39 Church Street, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, NN7 3LH.
Tel: 01327 341798. Email: scs@sotoncs.org.uk

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

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

GaugeMap

The Environment Agency has launched a new website <http://www.gaugemap.co.uk/> which provides an on-line link to their river gauging network. For me this recalled the memory of listening to the rain drumming on the roof of the boat, waiting for the river level to fall sufficiently for our cruise to continue. This new site may save you the walk in the rain to monitor the river level. More valuable, it might provide advanced warning of problems and allow you to plan accordingly. If you have a mooring on a river you can sign up for automatic alerts. The following table may be of interest to those cruising out of season, it provides a list of the closest upstream river

gauge for the most popular river sections of the canal network. I have compiled the information to illustrate how the data may be of potential interest to boaters. The distance of the gauge from the lock quoted can vary significantly and the absolute levels are of only limited information for navigation safety however, the data is most useful in showing the trend of rising or falling flow in the river or its tributaries. Any information on navigation gauge levels or corrections would be gratefully received.

Gordon Osborn

Canal	Lock	Closest Gauge Location Name	Canal	Lock	Closest Gauge Location Name
Aire & Calder Navigation	Lock 1, Leeds Lock	Leeds Crown Point	Leicester Line (Grand Union)	Lock 41 - Freemans Meadow	Freemans Weir
River Calder	Lock 6, Woodnook Lock	Methley		Lock 52 - Pillings Lock	Pillings Lock
	Lock 28, Fall Ing Lock	Wakefield		Lock 56 - Kegworth New Lock	Kegworth
	Wakefield Lock	Wakefield	Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal	Stourport Narrow Lock No 1	Bewdley
	Flood Lock, Thornes			Lock 1, Diglis Lock	Worcester (Barbourne)
	Lock 26, Broad Cut	Horbury	South Stratford Canal	Lock 56, River Lock	Stratford
	Lock 18, Shepley	Ledgard Bridge	Oxford Canal	Lock 32, Nell Bridge Lock	Banbury
	Flood Lock, Ledgard			Lock 40, Bakers Lock	Enslow Weir B
	Lock 17, Battyeford			Lock 41, Shipton Lock	Thrupp
	Lock 16, Cooper Bridge	Heaton Lodge	Northampton Arm GU	Lock 17	South Bridge
	Lock 15, Kirklees Low		Grand Union	Lock 80, Lot Mead Lock	Watford
Lock 12, Brighouse Bottom	Brighouse Brookfoot	Lock 87, Denham Lock		Denham Colne and Willowbank	
Huddersfield Broad Canal	Lock 1	Heaton Lodge	Kennet & Avon Canal	Lock 7, Bath Bottom Lock	Bath Destructor Bridge
Caldon Canal	Lock 16, Oakmeadowford	Basford Bridge		Lock 85, Newbury Lock	Newbury
Trent & Mersey Canal	Lock 1, Derwent Mouth Lock	Shardlow (River Trent)		Lock 88, Bulls Lock	Shaw
		Church Wilne (River Derwent)		Lock 101, Sheffield Lock	Theale
	Lock 12, Alrewas Lock	Kings Bromley		Lock 107, Blakes Lock	Blakes Lock

Waterways Events

Continued from page 2

Tue 17 Feb 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The whole length of the K&A" - Nick Channer. . The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Thu 19 Feb 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Social Evening - Restoration Update by Mike Chapman. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Thu 5 Mar 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Evelyn's War" with Tim Coghlan. The wartime diary of Evelyn Hunt, an "Idle Woman" which gives a fascinating daily insight into the life on the canals and on the Home Front. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com