Southampton Canal Society

October 2016 Issue 525

Newsletter



Chairman's Column

October Meeting

Tonight we give a warm welcome to SCS members Eric and Sue Lewis. Their talk tonight is the "History of the Inland Waterways from Exeter to the Warwick and Napton Junction."

November Meeting

Day-Star Theatre's yearly visit will be on Thursday 3rd November when Pete and Jane Marshall will present their performance of their new play "What's Good for the Goose." It is a sequel to "A Bad Penny" (which we saw in 2014) but fifty two years later - in the present day. Pete and Jane will be travelling down from their home and craft workshop, which is based in Audlem on the Shropshire Union Canal.

Bring along friends and family and enjoy the evening. Tickets are available tonight at £10 each to include an American Supper kindly brought along by our members.

December Meeting

A reminder that the Annual Inter-Society Waterways Quiz will be taking place on Thursday 1st December.

As last year's winners, Salisbury IWA will be organising the Quiz and SCS members will be hosting the evening, with the traditional pre-Christmas occasion of an American Supper which finishes off the evening.

SCS Members: We need you to volunteer for our team!! Revision notes and homework will be offered?? (if needed)

Thank you all again for supporting your Society.

Alan Rose

Nation's outdoor manners need a refresh

Visitors to towpaths across the nation are being urged to be considerate to other members of the public when enjoying the UK's great outdoors, as a new poll shows the nation could do with brushing up on its outdoor manners.

The poll, commissioned as part of CRT's Share the Space, Drop your Pace campaign, asked people what irks them when in public places and whether they themselves are guilty of a few when out and about. The research reveals what the public believe constitutes common courtesy in 2016, including 'modern manners' such as not invading other people's personal space and not having your music too loud on headphones.

<u>Visit CRT's Share the Space, Drop your Pace pages</u>.

Top bugbears

Amongst the top bugbears were cyclists speeding past people when they're walking (23%), pet owners not cleaning up after their dogs (56%), people taking up too much space on footpaths and walkways (25%), not having an awareness of personal space (19%), and people not concentrating on where they're going because they've too busy looking at their phones (27%).

However, many of us admit to being guilty of the things that annoy us, with only one in five of

those surveyed saying they never use their phone while walking on a public walkway (18%), while more than one in five admit they've bumped into people or had a near miss because they been looking at their phone while walking (21%).

The findings also point to a national tendency for 'manners mirroring' with more than three quarters of the public admitting they are only polite to a person if that person is polite to them first (77%). With 1 in 3 people (33%) believing that general politeness is at an all-time low, CRT want to make the towpaths a haven for good manners. CRT are asking people to take the lead and set the example for good manners by pledging to improve the harmony and politeness on the nation's waterways. Simply make a pledge to change your manners for the better and share on social media using #SharetheSpace.

Dick Vincent, CRT's national towpath ranger, explains: "For many people our towpaths are among their most precious green spaces, antidotes to the pace and stress of the modern world and places to relax and unwind. They are 'super slow ways', providing a slice of peace and calm through the centres of our busiest cities.

"With so many people enjoying our towpaths, it's important that we all make an effort to be

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Good News

Members will recall that about five months ago David Townley-Jones, our Raffle organiser and long term Committee member, suffered a serious accident. He was taking garden rubbish to their local tip and fell backwards off the steps and fractured his skull. This led to a long spell in hospital.

So it is more than heartening to be able to reproduce an email that Alan Rose received at the end of September.

Hello Waterways Team

I am feeling better and making progress, I can even type this message to you!

I am now back at home relying on Jean and family to keep me safe.

I am not allowed to go far without supervision (nothing changed there then!) and I am not allowed to drive, not sure how that's going to go i.e.. for months or a year.

I get tired but great support from all family and friends.

Sorry I am not able to attend at present re Raffle and missed one or two talks as well (I also missed Crick!!) and unable to help with painting your Boat!! but I am still going. so will keep reading the News and look forward to coming to a meeting sometime soon.

All the best to you all, keep well and thank you all for your best wishes David & Jean TJ

Best wishes, David, for a continuing recovery, hopefully a speedy one.

Peter Oates

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.

If YOU know of an event taking place that should be in this list then please contact the editor.

Date / Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
	Southampton CS	"History of the Inland Waterways from Exeter to the Warwick and Napton Junction" with Eric and Sue Lewis. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 16 Oct 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - Welton Tramway. Meet: Radstock Museum, Waterloo Road, Radstock, BA3 3EP (ST689549).	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 18 Oct 2016 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	'Old waterways of Reading' with Chris Forsey, Photo/Journalist. Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718). £2.50 (incl K&A members) to help pay for the room hire.	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed19 Oct 2016 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The Regents Canal - History and an Overview of the Canal Today" by Dr Roger Squires. Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Malcolm Brickwood: 07437 20002 I Email: chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 20 Oct 2016 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"The Thames Sailing Barge." Gareth Jones, who is a member of the Thames Sailing Barge Trust, will be talking about their history & their use today. The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR (SUI82275).	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover.3@btinternet.com Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Thu 20 Oct 2016 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Social Evening "Quarrying in the Mendips" by Robin Thornes. Meet: Radstock Working Men's Club, Radstock House The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Email: membership@coalcanal.org.uk
	Southampton CS	Day-Star Theatre will be performing a new production "What's Good for the Goose?" See page 3 of <u>August Newsletter</u> for a synopsis. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Tue 15 Nov 2016 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Member's evening extravaganza + Christmas eats and drinks. Food contributions very welcome, if not essential - as usual. Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718). £2.50 (incl K&A members) to help pay for the room hire.	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 16 Nov 2016 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	Nick Pollard talks about "The Thames Bridges, Staines to Kingston." Following Nick's visit last season, this talk will explore the history of each bridge, including all the different structures which have been built at each site over the centuries. Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Malcolm Brickwood: 07437 200021 Email: chobham.talks@basingstoke- canal.org.uk
Thu 17 Nov 2016 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Pleasure Boating in the 1930s, 40s, & 50s." Nick Grundy's grandparents started pleasure boating on early hire boats before the Second World War. After the war they cruised extensively on their own boat, and were involved in some early IWA campaigns. 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
2016 7.00pm for	Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust	"Railways of the Sussex Ouse Valley": Sam Bee (of the Bluebell Railway) will give a talk on the coming of the railways to the Ouse Valley in the mid-nineteenth century, and their impact on the Navigation. Joint meeting with IWA. Upper Room, Perrymount Methodist Church, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 3DN (TQ331244). Refreshments available. Please enter by the side door.	The Secretary: info@sxouse.org.uk Web: http://www.sxouse.org.uk/
	Somersetshire Coal CS	Social Evening "Maritime Short-Cuts" by Colin Vosper . Meet: Radstock Working Men's Club, Radstock House The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Email: membership@coalcanal.org.uk
Sun 20 Nov 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - Windsor Bridge to Churchill Bridge. Meet: Old Windsor Castle Inn, Bath, BA1 3DN (ST735651).	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
	Southampton CS	Inter Society Waterways Quiz: IWA Salisbury Group as last year's winning team will be organising the Quiz and the evening is hosted by SCS. The traditional American Supper will finish off the evening.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 15 Dec 2016 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"Fussells of Mells" by Robin Thornes. Meet: Radstock Working Men's Club, Radstock House The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Email: membership@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 15 Dec 2016 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Christmas Dinner. The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR (SUI82275).	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover.3@btinternet.com Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Wed 21 Dec 2016 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"A Watery Canadian Adventure - Cruising Around the Islands of Vancouver" with SCS members Ron and Myra Glover. See report on this talk given at SCS in November 2015 Newsletter. Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Malcolm Brickwood: 07437 200021 Email: chobham.talks@basingstoke- canal.org.uk
Thu 5 Jan 2017 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Members' annual "Waterways Photographic Evening and Competition". Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
	Southampton CS	TBA. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
	Southampton CS	"Forgotten Wrecks of the First World War" - talk by the local Maritime Archaeology Trust. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

September Meeting

Frank Green, New Forest National Park Archaeologist

Twenty two members and visitors came along, four from the West Wellow archaeology group, another two involved in archaeology and Tony Coles a former SCS member.

The New Forest contains a rich and diverse variety of archaeological sites and monuments including: prehistoric burial mounds, Iron Age forts, Roman pottery kilns, medieval hunting lodges and WWII concrete foundations.

Frank had leaflets and computer pictures showing a remote sensing survey known as LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) which works on the principle of radar, but uses light from a laser often from an aircraft. This survey was recently commissioned to accurately map the New Forest in 3D. This is the first time the whole of the National Park has been recorded in this way. The dataset has many applications, including being able to rapidly identify and record archaeological sites.

We saw details and pictures of areas explored:

- A dig carried out in the 80s at the Woodgreen gravel quarries, age-500-700 thousand years old.
- In Burley peat extraction taken to one metre depth, this site is eleven thousand years old and it includes a brick pit fired by gorse. Other sites can be found on the Cadland Estate, Paultons Park and Bishops Waltham.
- At the Heritage Centre in Romsey a post medieval hearth base and a one metre copper vat was found. This could have been used for processing and drying for cloth finishing.
- Bramshaw has 17th century iron workings and there's valuable pine timber from the same period on the A36 at Foxbury near West Wellow.
- \bullet Ice Houses are to be found in the majority of estate houses . The

ice could last up to 20years. A 3D scan has been carried out on the one at Beaulieu Estate showing that repairs are needed.

- Ancient 1560s earth workings found for making saltpetre. Coastal salt works, wind pumps, salt pans for brine. Later a 17th century boiler fitted which was run by coal brought in by boat. A picture showing a view of the site- lots of pipes going over sand & gravel mounds. Epsom salts also manufactured in this area.
- Old views of Bucklers Hard and the building of wooden ships, these traditional skills are still being used as are the cob style of forest cottages found in the forest.
- We looked at the Gunpowder workings at Eyeworth in the forest, still a lovely area to walk or watching the wildlife. It was closed in 1926. There is an interesting post box nearby.
- The first WWI sewage works in Brockenhurst, much needed!
- The building in 1880s of the concrete Sway Tower.
- We spoke about the Mulberry Harbours being built for D Day and the many defences erected around Lepe and the Solent area.

The local Maritime Archaeology Trust is booked to visit us in March 2017 when the subject will be "Forgotten Wrecks of the First World War". In the meantime, plans are ongoing for the redevelopment of the Fawley Power Station site. "Our Past, Our Future" is a £4.4 million Landscape Partnership Scheme for the New Forest supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It will undertake 21 projects to restore lost habitats, develop forest skills and inspire a new generation to champion and care for the New Forest.

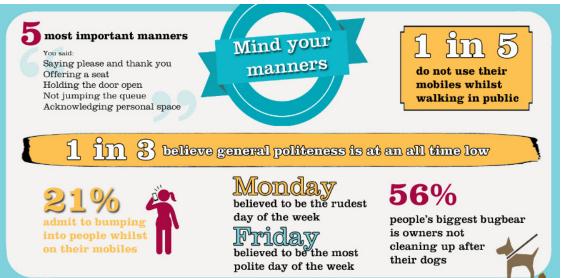
Thank you to Frank for a very interesting and informative talk which was enjoyed by all. A donation to the NFNPA (New Forest National Park Authority) was sent.

Angela Rose

Mind your manners

(Continued from page 1) considerate towards one another to keep them the special place they are known for. We can all make a difference to someone else's day, and ultimately the overall experience people have when on the towpaths.

"Don't wait for someone to be nice to you before you are nice to them! Whether cycling, running, walking, mooring your boat or fishing, please help by being considerate of others, slowing down and remembering we are all



there to enjoy the space in harmony. If you're in a rush, the towpath is not the best place for you so please choose a different route."

During 2015, 385 million visits were made to CRT's towpaths by walkers, cyclists, boaters, anglers and runners, a huge number considering they were originally built for horses to tow boats laden with goods.

To help remind people to improve their manners, messages have been sprayed onto the towpath in the busiest areas around England and Wales to encourage people to 'smile and say hi as you go by' and to remember that they are entering 'a hat tipping zone', a nod to times past when people tipped their hats or doffed their caps as a sign of respect or merely as a greeting. Visitors will also be able to soak up wise words from Canal Laureate Luke Kennard who has penned a poem to help tackle towpath troubles.

https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/ 26 Sept 2016

Issue 525 - October 2016

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.

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Boaters to be able to book passages and dry dock space online

The Trust will be introducing a new online self-service booking system which will allow boaters to book passage through some of our most famous landmarks.

When the system goes live on 14 November 2016, boaters planning trips through Anderton Boat Lift, Standedge Tunnel, Liverpool Canal Link, Ribble Link and Frankton Locks, or wanting to use Wigan and Ellesmere dry docks, will be able to book up to two years in advance. If these prove successful then the Trust will look to roll out online booking to other bookable passages and dry docks across the network.

Sitting within the boater's portal on the Trust's website, the system offers boaters 24/7 online access and takes out the paper element of the booking process. Boaters will know immediately if the booking has been successful and can track and change confirmed bookings online. Some things are staying the same: there will be no additional charges to those currently applied, and boaters can talk to Trust staff who can book passage for them if they prefer.

Mike Grimes, head of boating at the Trust, said: "This new online booking system will make it quick and easy for boaters to book passage through some of the most iconic spots on our canals and rivers. While some boaters will make trips specifically to see some of the wonders of our waterways, they're also complex pieces of engineering that connect our network. Now boaters will be able to plan their cruises up to two years in advance, and will have the flexibility to change things in advance if their plans change without filling in paper forms and sending them off. We're always looking for ways to make things simpler and better for boaters and if this is successful we'll add more sites to the system in future."

The system, developed with Concurrent Development, is being tested throughout September and October and the Trust has been working with boating organisations and trade partners to make sure it meets boater requirements.

https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news/ 27 Sept 2016

Canal & River Trust Annual Public Meeting

CRT held its Annual Public Meeting in Birmingham on 22 September 2016 where over 80 guests came from around the country to hear about their progress over the past year and their plans and ambitions for the future.

Allan Leighton, who was reappointed by the Trust's governing Council to serve a further term as chair, welcomed guests before chief executive Richard Parry gave an overview of the organisation's achievements during the financial year 2015/16. These included an increase in expenditure on the waterways and a growth in the number of people donating to the Trust and visiting, volunteering, and adopting stretches of its waterways.

As well as talking about future ambitions, the meeting saw director of asset management Julie Sharman give a presentation on the way the charity manages and prioritises the maintenance of its unique network of 200-year old locks, bridges, embankments, aqueducts and other assets.

After the presentations guests asked the Trust's senior management team about topics ranging from residential boating and support for vulnerable boaters, to the control of invasive hogweed, and the role visitors might play in helping the Trust's asset inspection teams.

The Trust's Council met after the Annual Public Meeting where they

considered topics including the possible impacts of Brexit and the potential transfer of the Environment Agency Navigations, as well as discussing an update on the work of the Waterway Partnerships.

The Council ratified the appointment of four new Trustees to the charity's unpaid board, which is legally responsible for overseeing the work towards the organisation's charitable objectives. Dame Jenny Abramsky, Nigel Annett, Janet Hogben and Tim Reeve replace Tom Franklin and Simon Thurley who conclude their time on the board, having served two terms as Trustees in line with the Trust's constitution (and Steve Shine who left the Trust early in 2016).

Allan Leighton, chair of the Trust, comments: "I'm pleased to see the progress that has been made at the Trust this year and I think the results speak for themselves. The number of people volunteering and donating has continued to grow, as have the partnerships formed with organisations as diverse as the Arts Councils in England and Wales, The Scout Association, Help for Heroes and Rolls Royce, plus numerous local authorities, charitable trusts and local canal societies.

"As we look to the future we're continuing to grow our influence and engage with more people so that the waterways are on a firm foundation for future generations to enjoy."

https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news/ 22 Sept 2016