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& Co

NEWSLETTER No. 269 OCTOBER 1993

MEETINGS - 1st Thursday each month at 7.45 pm.  
St. John Ambulance Hall, King's Park Road, Southampton.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

- 7th October - The History and Preservation of the Steam Narrowboat  
'President' by Richard Thomas.  
4th November - An artists view of waterways by Harley Crossley.  
2nd December - American Supper and ?  
1994  
6th January - Another Three Men in a Boat. A late 1950s journey around  
England's Waterways, in a Thames camping skiff by Roger Hardy.  
3rd February - Our Waterways Heritage by Mrs Frances Hart, Chief Executive  
of the Inland Waterways Association.  
3rd March - European Waterways, further travels on film and slide by  
Hugh McKnight.

SEPTEMBER MEETING. John Wood, Secretary and Vice Chairman of the Wey and Arun Canal Trust gave us an interesting trip along the River Arun and the Wey & Arun Canal from Littlehampton on the South Coast to Bramley near Guildford.

We were shown lots of before and after shots of bridges, locks and the cut itself, giving us a good idea of how restoration of the canal has progressed since our last talk on the same subject in May 1988.

TEE SHIRTS AND SWEAT SHIRTS with Southampton Canal Society badge have arrived. Screen printed Tee Shirts about £6.50.

Embroidered Sweat Shirts about £15.00.

CANAL QUIZ between the Wey & Arun Canal Trust, IWA Solent & Arun Branch and Southampton Canal Society.

Come along and support your team at the Crown Public House, Whyke Road, Chichester at 8pm on Saturday 9th October.

CANAL RESTORATION IN THE 21st CENTURY - a talk by Michael Handford. 7.30pm on Saturday 16th October in the Assembly Rooms, North Street, Chichester.

There will be a small entrance fee.

FOR STEAM RAILWAY FANS - Eastleigh Maunsell S15 No828 and 'Britannia' No70,000 will work together from Eastleigh to Salisbury and back on both Sat 9th and Sun 10th October. The times from Eastleigh are:- 09.30, 12.00, 14.30 and 17.00

REVIVING COAL TRAFFIC. The proceeds from the sale of coal sitting under an old Rotherham slag heap are helping to finance the construction of an 18 hole golf course and to revive coal traffic on South Yorkshire's canals.

In a link-up between BW, PowerGen's Ferrybridge 'C' Power Station and barge operators Cawoods Hargreaves Ltd, the first coal for more than a decade is moving along the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation. More than 60,000 tonnes will be moved over the next twelve months.

At present, Ferrybridge 'C' Power Station receives in excess of two million tonnes of coal by barge, mainly from adjacent British Coal sites. Transporting coal by barge from Rotherham is part of PowerGen's commitment to burn locally produced coal from the private sector and to increase the usage of navigable waterways.

The barges travel along the South Yorkshire canal system from Rotherham and then along the Aire and Calder Navigation to Ferrybridge. The 12 hour journey involves passing through 12 locks, six swing or lift bridges and over two aqueducts.

In welcoming the return of coal traffic to the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigations, Roy Parker, freight development manager, said "To see barges carrying 500 tonnes of coal moving easily through the modernised locks is most gratifying. We are delighted that PowerGen have placed their confidence in waterway transport once more."



Artist Les Osborn shows the Mayor and Mayoress, Cllrs Martin and Margaret Kyrle, some of the items he has painted in traditional style, on display at Eastleigh Museum. With them is the chairman of the Canal Society, Brian Evans. There is a chance to try your hand at painting on August 28th and September 11th, and a demonstration of rope fender making on September 4th

## Exhibition features golden age of the canal

THE golden age of the canal is making a triumphant return to Eastleigh—and there is not a drop of water in sight.

Visions of two-hundred years ago, when the waterways were in their prime, have sprung to life with a new exhibition at Eastleigh Museum.

Appropriately titled *Canal 200*, the display celebrates the method of transport that was queen of the industrial revolution before the the railways seized its crown.

Organised by the Southampton Canal Society, the exhibition captures the mood of workmanlike romance which makes the waterways so appealing.

And nothing sums that up better than a vivid display of everything from shovels to watering cans, hand-painted with roses and round towered castles, the hallmarks of canal life.

The flamboyant decorations were influenced by company liveries and can be traced back to the early 19th century. One of the gems on show is a stool, thought to be one of the last to come from a working boat yard.

Other handicraft includes examples of button and side fenders—coils of rope attached to the side of vessels for protection—and model tugs.

Hampshire may not have been the hub of the canal network, but there are still tales to tell about the region's

brush with ambitious plans to expand the waterway network in its halcyon era.

And, of course, there is the history of Eastleigh's very own Itchen Navigation, which once saw working barges ploughing past, towards Winchester and Southampton Water.

Held to mark British Waterways Canal 200 year, the exhibition runs until October 11 at the museum in High Street.

**FIRST** those who supplied the exhibits etc.

Graham Capelin.

Dr Edwin Course.

Annegret Evans.

Laura Sturrock.

Martin Cripps.

British Waterways Board.

Derek Webster (Inland Shipping Group, IWA).

Mike Laishley (Solent & Arun Branch, IWA).

Special thanks to Tony Coles for all the measuring, planning, typing and setting up of

Les Osborn.

The Lewis Family.

Dave & Lyn Sharpe.

Paul & Gill Herbert.

Ray Brooks.

the exhibition board. To Jackie and Russell Coles for stamping leaflets and to Russell for colouring in the board titles.

**SECOND** to those who helped with assembly etc.

Les Osborn & Debbie. Annegret Evans. Ray Brooks.

Dave & Lyn Sharpe. Tony Coles. Derek Webster.

Also Jenny Goodwin & Pauline Haskell - the two museum ladies.

**FINALLY** a big thanks to the two lads who did the

demonstrations - Ray Brooks and Les Osborn.

Editors Note:- One name that appears to be missing from the lists above is that of our Chairman, Brian Evans, without whom the exhibition wouldn't have got off the ground.

Thank you Brian.

### KENNET & AVON CANAL TO CLOSE?

British Waterways have received a request to close the Canal to navigation during fishing matches. The request has come from a local fishing club who want navigation halted on 17 Sundays during the fishing season.

British Waterways announced at a user group meeting in August that they have, however, refused the request. Waterway Manager, Mike Goodenough, made it clear that BW are a "navigation" authority and the request was not considered acceptable.

**OUR EXHIBITION** at Eastleigh Museum will be dismantled on Tuesday 12th October from 7pm.

Will anyone who has lent items for display please collect them between 7pm and 7.30pm if at all possible.

If it is not possible to collect on the 12th please telephone the Chairman to arrange a suitable time for the items to be picked up.

### TIME FOR THANKS.

The Chairman would like to thank all who helped with the exhibition in any way, especially those who lent items to put on show, supplied leaflets & posters or were there on the evening of 16th August to complete the assembly. The easiest way is to make a couple of lists:-