



Newsletter

October 1997

Issue 314

CANAL SOCIETY BARBECUE

The Southampton Canal Society Barbecue and the associated IWA River Hamble Small Boat Cruise were held on Saturday 20th September. A grand time was had by all as they enjoyed the various events that had been laid on.

The gates of Bursledon Brickworks were opened at 10.00am and the Society Committee and helpers went to work preparing the food. Once again they excelled - more a banquet than a barbecue.

In the meantime, about 15 boats were launched at Swanwick Shore and made their way by water for a mile or so to the Eastlands Boatyard just down the road from the Brickworks. This boatyard is near the point where bricks were once shipped out by sailing vessel.

About 80 people took part at the brickworks, many of them arriving via the boatyard then walking up for their meal. During the morning, Kevin Stubbs guided parties through the brickworks. The hungry boaters were fed first so that they could be on their way up river while the tide was right. The weather was glorious and many chose to eat outside in the sunshine.

Those without boats drove to Botley Quay. By the time the Committee and helpers had tidied up the barbecue remains and travelled to Botley, the sailors with their 15 boats had already arrived.

The tides for the few days around the time of the cruise were abnormally high, the highest for forty years or more. Many of the boats had taken advantage of the tide to make their way further upstream for several hundred yards to Botley Mill which had once made use of barges for shipments of grain and flour.

Botley and Curdridge Local History Society members had made a very good job of cutting and tidying the vegetation on Botley Quay the previous week. An ample tea was laid out and one could take part for just a small donation.

Items for sale that had travelled up the Hamble by boat included commemorative mugs, barbecue charcoal from Ampfield and flour from Bursledon Windmill.

Peter Boyce, chairman of the Solent & Arun Branch of the IWA, led the Morris men and ladies on to the slipway and we were entertained with music and dancing. There was a special song written for the day and we were encouraged in communal singing and dancing.

Many thanks to the helpers within our own Society and the IWA, to Botley and Curdridge Local History Society and to the Morris men and ladies. We all had a really enjoyable day.

CANAL SOCIETY SALES STAND

GEOprojects Maps

- Basingstoke Canal £3.00
- Oxford Canal £3.75
- Kennet & Avon Canal £3.75
- Grand Union Canal (each) £3.75
 - Map 1 Birmingham - Fenny Stratford
 - Map 2 Braunston - Kings Langley
 - Map 3 Fenny Stratford - Thames
 - Map 4 Leicester Line - Soar - Erewash
- The Thames Map £3.75
- London - City and Docklands Atlas £3.75
- The Broads £3.75
- Birmingham Canal Navigations £3.75
- Shropshire Union Canal £3.75
- Llangollen and Montgomery Canals £3.75

Notelets – with drawings of canal and Romsey scenes £1.00
(by Brian Evans)

Tee Shirts – Screen printed with Society logo across chest £6.50
in Navy Blue - medium, large & extra large
in Red - medium

Sweat Shirts – 30th Anniversary in Light Grey £16.00
with multi-coloured embroidered Society logo on breast

Sweat Shirts – Standard in Navy or Royal Blue £15.00
with Society logo embroidered on breast

Burgees – Navy Blue - screen printed Society logo on each side £8.00

Shopper Bags – Cotton with screen-printed Society logo each side £2.25

Tea Towels – Various colourful designs £2.50 & £3.25

Decorated Mugs £2.25

Society Members Badges – Enamel 75p

Ball Point Pens – Embossed 50p

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.

Chairman:

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Committee:

Martin Cripps
Paul Herbert
Peter Oates
David Townley-Jones

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MEETINGS

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS**2nd October 1997**

Bristol to Sharpness
Talk with video - Alan Padwick

6th November 1997

Bugsworth Basin and the IWPS
Ian Edgar

4th December 1997

Annual Inter-Society Quiz
and American Supper

Subscriptions

I have been asked to remind members that subscriptions to the Society became due back at the AGM in July. Please also note that the rates were increased at that meeting to: Single £6.00 and £9.00 for the Family rate. By any reckoning still a bargain for 12 meetings, etc!

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September Meeting

When Alan Matthews said that he would speak for about half an hour, I wondered what we would do for the rest of the evening.

I need not have worried, for his subject, 'Shared Ownership of Narrow Boats', was sufficiently interesting to generate enough questions to fill the evening.

Alan, who runs 'Ownerships', already had customers in the audience, both members of the Southampton Canal Society and non-members. The announcement of our meeting in *Waterways World* also attracted a couple of people who were interested in purchasing shares.

After hearing the talk, there were even more inclined towards this method of getting afloat.

Alan Matthews promised to send packs of details and these will be available on loan from librarian Sue Lewis.

*Brian Evans***IWA Solent & Arun Branch Events**

19 October (Sun) - River Rother Guided Walk, Stopham to Shopham. Guided walk, donation please.

Further details may be obtained from: Peter Boyce, Greensleeves Cottage, Hambledon Road, Denmead, Waterlooville, Hants PO7 6PW. Tel (home) 01705 269642, (office and answer machine) 01730 829016, (work) 01705 693611 ext 1364. E-mail: iwa.solent.arun@dial.pipex.com

IWA Guildford & Reading Branch Events

The branch are holding the following meetings at the Basingstoke Canal Centre, Mytchett Place Road, Mytchett, Surrey (off A321 Frimley - Guildford road). Talks are illustrated by colour slide or video. Doors open 7.30pm, start 8.00pm.

20 October (Mon) - "Wey and Basingstoke". An audio-visual show by Arthur Dungate.

24 November (Mon) - "Manufacture and Transport of Gunpowder in Surrey" by Prof A Crocker.

26 January 1998 (Mon) - "River Thames, Limehouse to Lechlade" by Ian Fletcher.

23 February 1998 (Mon) - "Basingstoke Canal, History and Restoration" by Tony Harmsworth.

23 March 1998 (Mon) - Branch AGM, followed by "Limehouse to the Medway by Narrowboat" by Norman Woolley.

20 April 1998 (Mon) - "Kennet and Avon Heritage Lottery Fund" by John Laverick (BW Project Manager).

Boat Cruise: 1 & 2 November 1997 (Sat/Sun) - River Wey Weekend Cruise to Woking Old Palace Site. Suitable for most boat sizes, join us on either or both days, option of overnight stay. No entry fee, but book attendance in advance with Mike Lewis, 01483 569440.

Boat Rally: July 1998 - Godalming Working Boat Rally. Largest ever (?) gathering of working boats at the southernmost point of Britain's connected inland waterway system. Full weekend event, precise date still to be confirmed. All information from Mike Adams 01483 773512.

IWA Salisbury Group Events

20 November (Thu) - Presentation on the Dorset & Somerset Canal by Derrick Hunt at Salisbury Rugby Clubrooms, Castle Road, Salisbury at 7.30pm. Details from Tony Fry on 01722 710192.