



Newsletter

Chairman's Column

3rd April Meeting

Many thanks to our member David Doulton for tonight's talk and his presentation on British Transport which includes Trains, Canals and Buses. So sit back and enjoy the ride.

I'm afraid that Angela and I are unable to attend this meeting. However, Aelred Derbyshire will open up and run the evening. Our thanks to him and also to Sue for running the refreshments.

Informal gathering



An informal gathering for boaters or SCS visitors in the Napton / Braunston area to be held over the first May Bank Holiday weekend of the 2nd May.

This is not an organised event just a small number of boat owners enjoying a casual get together. If you are around and would like to join us please contact me as soon as possible.

May Meeting

There will be **NO** May meeting as the hall will be in use as a polling station in the General Election.

June Meeting

On 4th June, John Ross will be giving his talk on The History of Canal and Traditional Narrowboat Painting with a demonstration of his painting skills.

July Meeting

This meeting on 2nd July will be our AGM. All details will be in our June Newsletter.

August Meeting

There will be **NO** meeting in August.

September Meeting

Our September meeting will now be held at St Denys Church Hall, Old Chilworth. We have just been informed that the Chilworth Parish Hall will be closed for the refurbishment that was postponed last year. St Denys Church Hall is the hall that we used last March 2013 for Stuart Fisher's talk.

In September, Aileen Butler will present a Magic Lantern Show of the Manchester Ship Canal Construction, plus other canal related pictures, etc.



Many Happy Returns

During the break at our March meeting, Brian Evans, on behalf of our members, congratulated Eva Drinkwater on reaching her 90th birthday. Brian had spotted the announcement in the Romsey Advertiser. We all celebrated the event by enjoying a slice of the birthday cake.

Thanks once again for your support of the Society and enjoy the months ahead.

Alan Rose

Subscriptions are now due



The Society year ended on 31 March 2015, so subscriptions are now due for the year 2015 – 2016. The subscription rates are £27 for joint membership and £16 for a single membership.

I will be pleased to receive your cheques or cash from the April meeting onwards. If you wish to send me a cheque by post, my address is on the last page of this Newsletter. Please let me have your address so that I can send you a receipt. If you wish to pay by electronic bank transfer the Society's bank details are:

Sort code: 40-44-25

Account number: 41289373

Account name: Southampton Canal Society

Please use your surname as a reference and send me an email so that I can expect the payment. My email address is also on the last page of this Newsletter. I will not have the details until I receive the bank statement for the following month. I will then send you an email to acknowledge your payment.

Aelred Derbyshire

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Bits and Pieces

APCO award

The Hotel Boat section of the Association of Pleasure Craft Operators (APCO) has awarded their prestigious Lock Keeper of the Year award for 2014 to Bob Preston and the Canal & River Trust lock keeping team at Caen Hill Locks on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

CRT Boat Licensing

CRT have had an online licence renewal service for a while but, hope to introduce a new, improved, system in April. The new system will enable boaters to:

- Manage their details online and will reduce the need for form filling, postage etc.
- For the first time new customers will be able to apply for a licence online (there is also a mobile version).
- Renewals and licences will be sent via email (where possible) reducing cost, increasing efficiency.
- There will be a direct link to the BSS database so there is no need for customers to send CRT the details

Society website

I must apologise to members that the Society's website was not updated during March and last month's Newsletter was not made available on it. Neither was the Waterways Events page updated. I'm afraid that as a result of the tumult of moving house it got overlooked. I will try to do better this month.

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 2 Apr 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	SCS member David Doulton will be sharing his interest in "British Transport." Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Mon 13 Apr 2015 7.30pm	Wilts & Berks CT	"Canal Short Cuts" by Stuart Fisher who will talk about proposed branches of the W&B and several coast to coast canal schemes further afield. Church Hall, United Reformed Church, Wood Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7BD (SU065826). Free parking is in the Borough Fields (Sainsburys) car park whence there is a footpath to Wood St. £2.00 to cover costs.	Cheryll Yeowell: 01793 812708 Email: cheryll.yeowell@wbct.org.uk Web: http://www.wbct.org.uk
Thu 16 Apr 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	After a visit to the waterway, Gareth Jones (chairman of IWA South East region) will talk about "The Panama Canal." 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 16 Apr 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"The Coal Canal Archive" with Roger Halse. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Sun 19 Apr 2015 13.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	River Arun navigation boat rally exploring the River Arun from Pulborough up to Pallingham to help maintain navigation rights. Please complete application form at http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/ArunBoatRally2015EntryForm.pdf or send email. No fee - donation welcome. Launch at Pulborough slipway (TQ046185) 1.15pm.	John F H Taylor-Cram: 02392 250463 Email: rallies@weyandarun.co.uk Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk
Sun 19 Apr 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - "The K&A Canal at Avoncliffe" by Mike Chapman. Meet: Avoncliff (south) car park BA15 2HB (ST804599), accessed via Westwood.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 21 Apr 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The River Kennet through history" with David Peacock. 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 22 Apr 2015 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"Narrow Boats to Norway" by Clive and Jill Field. Please note change of date. 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
Mon 27 Apr 2015 7.30pm	IWA Guildford & Reading Br	Branch AGM followed by "Barge Building at Dapdune Wharf" by Jem Bates at National Trust's premises at Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU993502).	Gareth Jones: 07850 819071 Email: hhel@btconnect.com
Thu 7 May 2015	Southampton CS	No meeting - hall in use as a polling station in the General Election.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 10 May 2015 10.00pm	Wilts & Berks CT (Melksham Branch)	Sponsored Walk - from Buttercross in Market Place, Chippenham, SN15 3HD (ST921732) to The Bell in Lacock. Either return walk (10 miles) or provided minibus back from Lacock. Registration £5 for individuals, free entry with £20 or more sponsorship. Further info from Trust website.	Malcom Hitchingson: 01373 859207 Email: VWalk@wbct.org.uk Web: http://www.wbct.org.uk/home/full-calendar/
Tue 12 May 2015 2.00pm - 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
Sat 16 May 2015 2.00pm	Basingstoke CS	Society AGM followed by a guest speaker. Non-members welcome. Deepcut Village Centre, Cyprus Road, Deepcut, Surrey, GU16 6TB (SU909577).	Philip Riley: Email: chairman@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Sun 17 May 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - "The K&A Canal at Bradford on Avon" by Mike Chapman. Meet: Avoncliff (south) car park BA15 2HB (ST804599), accessed via Westwood.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 19 May 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"Basingstoke Canal" with Philip Riley, chairman of Basingstoke CS. Joint meeting with IWA Guildford & Reading and Oxfordshire Branches. 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 21 May 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Richard Thomas is returning to talk to us about "A day in the life of a ... Thames Tug." This is a look at the work done by the Cory tug "General VII I," engaged in the movement of refuse lighters. The talk features a voyage from Wandsworth to the aptly named Mucking in Essex. 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 24 May 2015	Basingstoke CS	Magna Carta Rally at Odiham Wharf, Colt Hill, Odiham, Hants, RG29 1DH (SU747517). More info at http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk/headline/magna-carta-boat-rally-24th-may-2015/ This will be part of the Magna Carta celebrations in Odiham - more details of local events can be seen at http://magnacarta800th.com/events/odiham/ .	Enquiries: 07817-897446 (please leave a message) Email: enquiries@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 4 Jun 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	John Ross will talk on The History of Canal and Traditional Narrow-boat Painting with a demonstration of his painting skills. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

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March Meeting

John Pomfret: Freight on the Waterways

John has so much knowledge of and information about the waterways and this report shows a small interpretation of the evening.

He started with pictures of wind powered vessels using this country's rivers and the canal system.

Traffic data was shown of the England's main estuarial/waterway systems:

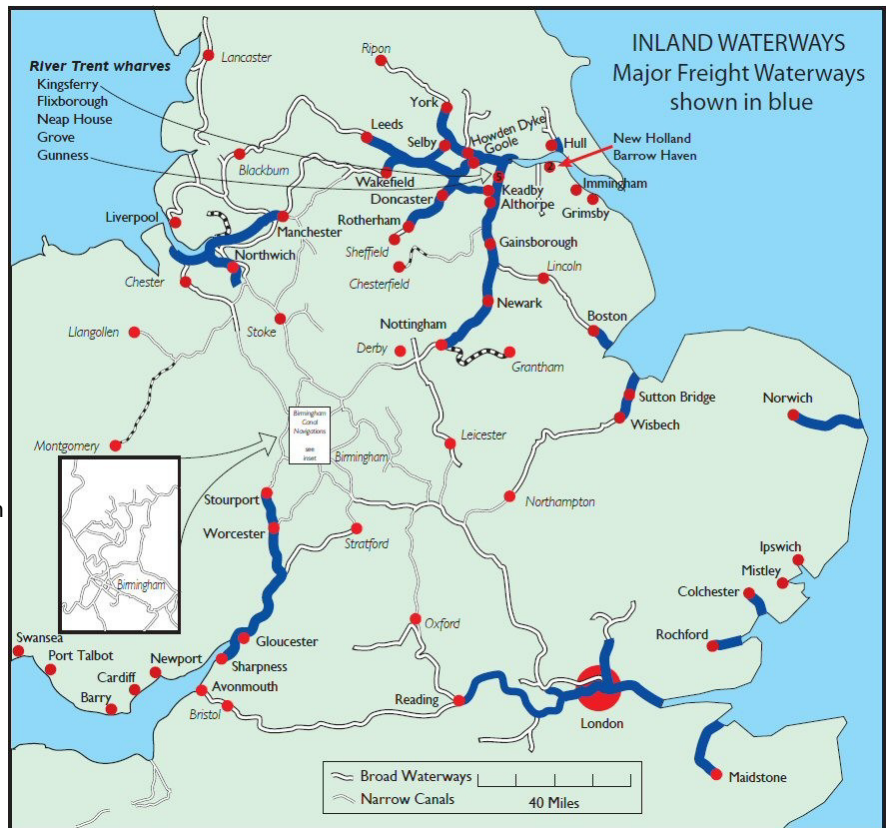
- The prime estuarial system comprises the River Thames and its tributaries such as the Medway and Lee Navigation. John illustrated this with a picture of a Thames barge on the Blackwater.
- The Humber with the Rivers Ouse and Trent. Included in this group is the Aire and Calder Navigation which, at its peak, ran coal into Ferry Bridge power stations and down to Goole on the River Ouse. A picture of a block of seventeen "Tom Puddings" being towed in the 1980's by a steam tug. The Sheffield and South Yorks Navigation moved steel, fluorspar, oil and limestone in its heyday.
- The Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal. The lower part of the River Weaver is still busy with commercial traffic
- The Severn estuary mainly between Bristol and Gloucester.

In the main, the Canal & River Trust look after the canal system, with its Freight Advisory Group, of which John is the chairman, and the river estuaries are managed by the relevant area Port Authority.

John showed an interesting series of pictures: of Immingham, on the East Coast at sunrise; a Whittaker tanker by the swing bridge on the River Severn; Wandsworth on the Thames; the River Lee and the Cross Rail new underground system through London with its spoil removed by water.

Moving north, we saw views of the Humber barge "Mossdale" and the days of Le Farge and Tarmac using the waterways; the Trent at Keadby Bridge and Gainsborough; the Aire & Calder at Castleford flood lock; the River Nene at Sutton Port. Various little snippets of interest and information were humorously given out.

After the break, John continued with a comparison of freight in this country and in continental Europe, with a brief report and pictures of the River Seine and Ville Dunkerque. He also showed great pictures of the Rhine, Rhone, Elbe and Yugoslavia, Ukraine, Slovakia and Romania. In the 1990s it was planned to upgrade the River Danube running down to the Black Sea after it was connected by canal to the Rhine. However, the war in the Yugoslavia meant some of the main



bridges were destroyed by British bombing. (we remember the B52 planes and the cruise missiles being deployed). Ten countries would be involved in this project if the upgrading of this waterway system is continued.

The locks and cargo ships in Europe are massive. One design shown of a Class 2 boat, can carry 8,000 tons, has three crew and can cruise at 10 knots. With a "stalk" wheel house that can be lowered as necessary while going through low bridges or entering locks. There was a fantastic shot of an "L" shape lock with a cargo boat manoeuvring through it.

A comment from John: Using our waterways for freight has benefits from lower CO2 emissions. UK containers must be accommodated as well as bulk cargoes.

Strong national and regional planning is needed to improve our "Waterways for tomorrow" and there is a need to include Scotland's canals.

A very informative evening, thanks John. Thank you all for your help on the raffle and refreshments and to David Doulton for the use of his digital projector.

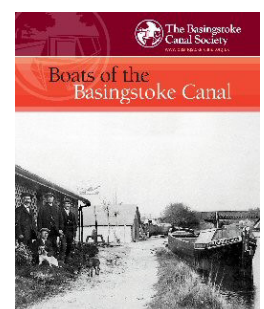
Angela Rose

Boats of the Basingstoke Canal

Based on a series of articles written by Tony Harmsworth for the Surrey & Hampshire Canal Society's newsletter, this book was first published in 1969. It described his grandfather's carrying business and boat building at Ash Vale and had details of the boats that operated on the canal during its commercial days.

A second edition added information about some of the boats that came onto the canal during its restoration in the 1970s and 80s. This 3rd edition now updates this information and adds historic photographs of many of the old boats described as well as those that may be seen on the canal today. This A5 booklet has 36 pages including 4 pages of colour photos.

Price £3 inc p&p from Denise Smith, 48 Maple Close, Avondale, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants, GU12 5JZ.



Tony Harmsworth

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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Brian Evans.

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Waterways Events

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Date / Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Fri 5 to Sun 7 Jun 2015 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 7 Jun 2015	Wey & Arun CT	The Annual Poddle. Sponsored walk from St Michael's Church Hall, in Amberley to Warningcamp Heritage Centre Sefton Place BN18 9QY where lunch will be provided. Return to Amberley via Arundel, South Stoke and Bury. Shorter option available. See website for further details.	Margaret Darvill: 01483 894606 Email: poddle@weyandarun.co.uk Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/events2.php
Tue 9 Jun 2015 2.00pm - 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
Sat 13 Jun 2015 11.00am - 5.00pm	Reading Borough Council	Reading Water Fest. River Kennet, Forbury Gardens and Chestnut Walk, RG1 3AH. (SU719734)	Tel: 0118 937 2771 Web: http://beta.reading.gov.uk/article/2973/Reading-Water-Fest---13-June-2015
Sat 13 - Sun 14 Jun 2015	Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and Runnymede Borough Council	Celebrations of 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta A river pageant comprising a flotilla of boats of all shapes and sizes will make its way downstream from Hurley Riverside Meadows to Runnymede on 13 and 14 June. The international celebration will take place on 15 June at Runnymede Meadows with the Queen in attendance. For more details see www.thamesalive.org.uk/magnacarta	Web: www.thamesalive.org.uk/magnacarta
Sun 14 Jun 2015	Chichester Rotary Club	Chichester Dragon Boat Challenge. Chichester Canal Basin, Canal Wharf, Chichester, PO19 8DT (SU859041).	Email: chichesterdragons@btinternet.com Web: http://www.chichesterdragonboats.org.uk/
Thu 18 Jun 2015 7.45pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Trail Boat Festivals on Isolated Waterways around Britain" by Ron & Myra Glover. 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 2 Jul 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Society's AGM. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

Help us keep our ducks healthy

Every year over 6 million loaves of bread are thrown into our canals and rivers by well-intentioned people feeding the ducks. However, this bread isn't great for them or their habitats and so we're asking you to swap the bread for healthy snacks and to exercise some portion control.

Our canals and rivers provide homes to hundreds of thousands of ducks and other waterfowl and it's our job to safeguard them. Here are a few tips to help you feed the ducks in the right way.

Find a new patch

Throwing bread into a canal or river can create overcrowding of bird populations, as the birds will flock to the same location in search of their starchy treat.

Too many ducks or waterfowl in one place can stress the birds and

lead to their habitats being damaged. It also creates excessive amounts of bird poo, which along with being smelly and slippery underfoot, can impair water quality and create harmful algae which can clog the waterway. So the next time you're heading out to feed the ducks try to avoid the crowds. Go and find a new flock and spread the love!

Vary their diet

Instead of feeding ducks large quantities of white bread think about feeding them healthier snacks and less of them. It's simply kinder to them. Our environment manager explains: "Bread's not great for a duck's health as it's nothing like their natural diet so don't over feed them with large quantities of it. Try to vary what you give them and swap it for healthier more natural treats like oats, corn, or defrosted frozen peas. And exercise portion control!

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/features/help-us-keep-our-ducks-healthy>