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Subscriptions for 2019/20

As agreed at the last AGM, the subscription rate for 2019/20 is unchanged at £16.00 for a single member and £27.00 for joint membership.

Subscriptions are due at the April 4th meeting.

*Aelred Derbyshire
Hon Treasurer*

Itchen Navigation

The last barge to carry a cargo to Winchester tied up at Blackbridge Wharf 150 years ago in June 1869 loaded with coal.

To commemorate this event, I have been busy redesigning and updating the part of the Society's website concerned with the Navigation.

In particular, I am expanding the and updating the description of the route from Blackbridge Wharf to Northam with many new modern pictures and a number of older ones.

These changes have not yet been put online (so don't try to find them - yet) but hopefully they will "go live" around the end of June. One problem is that Laura and I will be going boating at Easter and won't be home until mid-June. I will make a further announcement in a future Newsletter.

I am also hoping to produce Newsletters whilst I'm away.

Peter Oates, Editor

Chairman's Column

April 4th Meeting

This evening please give a warm welcome to Chris Witts and his talk about his life on the River Severn. This includes the tanker trade in the 1960's through to the grain trade in the 1980's.

May Meeting

As always, there is NO May meeting as the Hall may be commandeered for elections.

June Meeting - Thursday 6th

Paul Gosling promises us : "Gosling's Gallivants Part Two" This will cover tours around Scotland covering boats, trains and docks.

In the meantime, enjoy this variable spring weather.

Thank you for your support.

Alan Rose

Preston canal turns to sand

A 50m length of the Lancaster Canal in Preston looks like it has been in filled with sand and is solid enough to walk on.

A non-native species of water fern called Azolla (*Azolla filiculoides*) has grown along the length between Roebuck Street and Blackpool Road.

The plant is harmless to both people and animals and should disappear naturally later in the spring once the plant's natural predator a weevil appears and starts to feast on the fern.

A spokesman for CRT is quoted as saying: "The plant normally dies back in winter but due to the relatively warm conditions over the last few months, this hasn't happened this year." Trust ecologists are aware of the problem and will be employing the usual control methods to try and remove it. "This involves a bio control agent – basically a certain type of insect that eats the plant.

"As with all natural vegetation management, solutions are often not quick and easy, and unfortunately these insects are not available until May." However, we will get on top of the problem this spring and hopefully return the canal to clearer water again for the summer."

Towpath Talk - March 27, 2019



PHOTOS: Colin Wareing of Colin and Carole's Creations
www.colinandcarolescreations.co.uk



Changes to short-term licences

FOLLOWING the national licensing consultation last year, the Canal & River Trust is announcing changes to the short-term licences the charity offers to visiting boaters.

Nearly eight out of ten of those who shared their views on short-term licences felt it was fair to withdraw one-day licences but retain one week, one month, and thirty-day flexible 'explorer' licences, and price these proportionately to reflect the greater administrative costs.

The Trust will continue to offer short term licences for visitors and those who have boats off the water and will remove the daily licence. Provision will be made for discounts for legitimate cruising clubs who host events that require one day licences. The revised prices are available via the Trust's [Useful downloads, application forms and licence fees webpage](#).

Towpath Talk - March 27, 2019

Changes to Online Mooring Policy

CRT have updated their Online Mooring Policy following a consultation at the end of 2017, and a further review. There are two key areas of change.

They will be ending the automatic online reduction policy, whereby they had previously removed one long-term online mooring for the creation of every ten off-line marina moorings. In the last 10 years nearly 600 online permanent

moorings have been removed.

Secondly, single 'end of garden' mooring applications will now be considered against privately-owned land, not just that which has a residential dwelling on it. Permission will only be granted to the landowner and sub-letting the mooring will not be permitted. Further details on the [CRT website](#).

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	Venue	Contact
Thu 4 Apr 2019 7.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury)	Branch AGM.	Stone Building, Wharf Road, Newbury, RG14 5AS (SU472671).	Julie Dean. Email: juliedean@btinternet.com
Thu 4 Apr 2019 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"My life on the River Severn" based on the Tanker Trade in the 1960s and the grain trade in the 1980s by Chris Witts.	Chilworth Village Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 7 Apr 2019 10.30am- 1.30pm	National Trust	Mandy's Walk. From the Colonel Grounds north of Godalming to Bramley with the River Wey volunteers. Return via disused railway line to Broadford and then back along the towpath. Bring a packed lunch.	Parking at Broadwater Lake car park, GU7 3BX. (SU985452). This venue should be confirmed with National Trust.	National Trust Navigations Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk Web: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/
Tue 16 Apr 2019 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Speaker TBA. Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 17 Apr 2019 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"Metropolitan Police Marine Policing Unit." Officer William Sargent will talk about the Marine Policing Unit (MPU) which is responsible for policing the 47 miles of River Thames within the Met area (Dartford to Hampton Court) as well as providing a specialist response to over 250 miles of canals and waterways, lakes and reservoirs and other bodies of water in London.	Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Email: chobham.talks@basinstoke-canal.org.uk Web: www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Sat-Mon 20-22 Apr 2019 10.30am- 4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	Easter weekend steaming. Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
Sat 20 Apr 2019 10.00am- 5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sun 21 Apr 2019 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - Radford to Camerton - guided walk.	Meet at Camerton Heritage Site, BA2 0PB (ST681579)(Park in Durcott Lane).	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: workparty@coalcanal.org.uk
Sat 27 Apr 2019 10.00am- 5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Thu 2 May 2019	Southampton CS	NO MEETING. As always, there is NO May meeting.		Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sat-Mon 4-6 May 2019 10.30am- 4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	Early May Bank Holiday steaming. Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
Sat 4 May 2019 10.00am- 5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Tue 7 May 2019 11.00am- 1.00pm & 2.00pm- 4.00pm	National Trust	Tollhouse Turbine Tour. Electric boat trip to Millmead Lock for a tour of the Toll House, where a reinstated turbine is once again generating hydro-electricity. Return trip to Dapdune Wharf. Places limited - booking is essential on 01483 561389. £12.50 per person.	Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU992502).	National Trust Navigations Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk Web: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/
Sat 11 May 2019 10.00am- 5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sat 18 May 2019 10.00am- 5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sun 19 May 2019 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Visit - Saltford Brass Mill. The mill is the only surviving building, still with a furnace and working water wheel, remaining from a group of 18th century mills making copper and brass goods in the Avon Valley.	Meet at Saltford Brass Mill, The Shallows, Saltford, BS31 3EY. (ST687669)	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: workparty@coalcanal.org.uk
Sun 19 May 2019 1.00pm- 4.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	Pulborough to Pallingham Boat Rally. This aims to confirm the right of navigation on the River Arun above Pulborough, reaching the site of the junction with the Wey and Arun then on to the navigable limit at Pallingham Quay. No entry fee, but donations towards costs welcome. Launching times to be announced nearer the date. Further info on website.	Launching from Pulborough slipway. Adj to The Corn Store, London Road, Pulborough, RH20 2BJ (TQ045184). Map of slipway here . Canoes can launch at Stopham Bridge, RH20 1DS (TQ030183). Map here .	Please register for event on website. Further information, please email. Trust Office: 01483 505566 Email: events@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyarun.org.uk
Tue 21 May 2019 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Joint meeting with IWA Guildford & Reading Br. Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com Mobile: 07533 886917.

Waterway Events (continued from page 2)

Date/Time	Organiser	Details	Venue	Contact
Tue 21 May 2019 11.00am-1.00pm & 2.00pm-4.00pm	National Trust	Tollhouse Turbine Tour. Electric boat trip to Millmead Lock for a tour of the Toll House, where a reinstated turbine is once again generating hydro-electricity. Return trip to Dapdune Wharf. Places limited - booking is essential on 01483 561389. £12.50 per person.	Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU992502).	National Trust Navigations Office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk Web: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/
Sat-Mon 25-27 May 2019 10.30am-4.30pm	Kenet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	Late May Bank Holiday steaming. Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
Sat 25 May 2019 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sat 1 Jun 2019 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Sun 2 Jun 2019	Wey & Arun CT	"The Puddle" - WACT's annual sponsored walk and major fundraiser. Circular walk to include part of the canal. Start between 9am - 10.30am from Bramley Village Hall, via Farley Green Village Hall where lunch will be provided, Blackheath, Albury and back to the start. Possible to do morning only. Further details and registration on website.	Bramley Village Hall, Hall Road, Bramley, Surrey, GU5 0AX (TQ009449).	Trust Office: 01483 505566 Email: support@weyandarun.co.uk Puddle co-ordinator email: margaret_darvill@weyandarun.co.uk Web: weyandarun.org.uk/events39
Thu 6 Jun 2019 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Goslings' Gallivants Part Two" . Paul Gosling will be showing us "Around Scotland – boats, trains & docks".	Chilworth Village Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sat 8 Jun 2019 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Tue 11 Jun 2019 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	Annual General Meeting 2019.	Radstock Museum, Waterloo Rd, Radstock, BA3 3EP (ST689549). For location see map here	Patrick Moss: 07736 859882 Email: chairman@coalcanal.org.uk
Sat 15 Jun 2019 11.00am-5.00pm	Reading BC and Kenet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Reading Water Fest. Festival of boats, entertainment and stalls. Great family day out. Admission is free.	River Kenet, Forbury Gardens and Chestnut Walk, RG13AH. (SU719734)	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Mobile: 07533 886917 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Sat 15 Jun 2019 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	Claverton Pumping Station. Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Accompanied Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
Wed 19 Jun 2019 7.30pm	Mikron Theatre	Redcoats. No tickets required, cash collection after show. Bar, food and refreshments available. Bring chairs and blankets. Outdoor show - shelter if bad weather.	The Trout Inn, St John's Bridge, Faringdon Road, Lechlade On Thames, GL7 3HA (SU223990).	The Trout Inn: 01367 252313 Web: www.thetroutinn.com or mikron.org.uk
Thu 20 Jun 2019 7.00pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Boules & BBQ.	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

Huddersfield Canal lock gates get Chelsea makeover

Work has started on two pairs(?) of old lock gates removed from the Huddersfield Narrow Canal which will be the main feature in this year's Welcome to Yorkshire RHS Chelsea show garden.

They will help to create a genuine slice of Yorkshire in the heart of London this May with the aim of encouraging people to visit the county to see its beauty first hand and experience the wellbeing benefits of its canal and waterway network.

The 2019 garden has been designed by Yorkshireman and award-winning garden designer Mark Gregory. Inspired by Yorkshire's proud industrial heritage and stunning natural environment, the garden's main feature is a canal, with authentic lock gates, which flows next to a wild perennial meadow and a lock keeper's lodge with a cultivated garden.

The gates, which had come to the end of their lifespan in Huddersfield Narrow Canal - Britain's highest canal – have been donated to Welcome to Yorkshire by national wellbeing and waterway charity the Canal & River Trust, who look after this canal. They are being adapted



Mark Gregory with Adam Cluny and Vanessa Cookley

for use at the prestigious flower show at the charity's Stanley Ferry Workshop, where they were first made 20 years ago.

Two of the Canal & River Trust's recently qualified apprentices Vanessa Cookley and Adam Cluny will be working alongside garden designer Mark Gregory to ensure the authenticity of all elements on the Welcome to Yorkshire garden.

Mark Gregory, Garden Designer said,

"These lock gates are essential for the authenticity of this year's Welcome to Yorkshire Garden and will really bring the canal to life. It's the very first time two pairs of genuine gates have featured in a garden

at Chelsea and I'm incredibly grateful to Canal & River Trust for their support. The skill of the team at the workshop is second to none and I'm looking forward to working with Vanessa and Adam, I know they will make sure everything is just right for the garden, which I hope will be the perfect showcase for Yorkshire and it's wonderful waterways."

Canal and River Trust -20 March 2019

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 in this issue) 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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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthamptonCanalSociety>

March Meeting

"Steam Narrowboating" with the Reverend Mark Rudall

In the mid 1700s James Watt developed the steam engines for working in tin and coal mines and to pump out the water. Similar developments happened in the USA. The Somerset Coal Canal used steam powered pumps to maintain water levels.

Mark has been a steam man for many years, building and operating trailable steam launches for use on the Inland Waterways and estuaries in Britain. Using relatively lightweight engines and boilers, his present kerosene-fired water tube and boiler weighs about 200lbs, and his single cylinder engine went in his boat without an engine hoist.

There are quite a few steaming weekends with the Steamboat Association look out for the FMC *President*, *Laplander* (which is the oldest iron, steam-powered ice breaker. Other steam powered boats include *Hasty*, *Adamant*, the 42ft *Trevor* on the Basingstoke and *Emily Anne* on the Coventry.

Robert Stevenson built a triple expansion engine and other engineers followed. Steam became the power of the day. We were shown pictures of boats being fitted out with steam power on the Thames. The

Naval Packet Boats and electric boats needed steam. The *SS Peace* was built and used by the Baptist Mission 1882-1906 in the Congo. We saw wonderful pictures of the villagers carrying parts of the boat and engine over to the other side of their island. This boat was built by Thornycrofts on the Thames, then taken apart and transported to Africa.

The stern of the *Peace* came back to the UK and Mark was able to keep the nameplate.

Other well know steam boats: the *African Queen* and the Clyde Puffers.

For further information about this interesting talk see the IWA Cargoes Winter 2016 and Spring 2017.

Mark is also a Waterways Chaplain and wearing his yellow waistcoat he keeps an eye on the needy and lonely people on the waterways, plus other boaters that enjoy a chat.

He is also editor of the Steamboat quarterly journal "Funnel".

Angela Rose

Wey & Arun Canal Trust awarded design accolade

The Trust has scooped a highly commended place in the prestigious Waverley Design Awards for its Compasses Bridge project.

Project engineer Tony Ford was presented with the award in the Environment and Landscape category by Councillor David Else at a ceremony in Farnham, Surrey, last

week. The awards, which celebrate good design in planning, architecture, sustainable development and landscaping, are organised by Waverley Borough Council and sponsored by The Haslemere Society.

Judges said: "The Wey & Arun Canal Trust's work at Compasses Bridge has opened the whole area up to the light and created a canalside haven. We have been impressed with the passion of the volunteers and



Left: How it used to look



Right: The new bridge

that the whole community has been involved, and hope the commitment is mirrored in future projects."

Compasses Bridge has been the Trust's most ambitious project in Surrey. Construction at the entrance to the Dunsfold Aerodrome site at Dunsfold/Alfold began in June 2015 and the bridge was officially opened in October 2016

by Dame Penelope Keith. The project involved removing a concrete causeway created in the 1930s, along with constructing a new road and pedestrian bridge. The project cost £770,000, all funded by Wey & Arun Canal Trust members.

Gill Davies - Wey & Arun Canal Trust - March 20, 2019