



Newsletter

Chairman's Column

What glorious weather! It allows us to enjoy outdoor life at home and if boating on the canals is wonderful if not a little warm working the locks.

August Meeting

There will be **NO** August meeting as the hall is closed for maintenance.

Society AGM

The 2015-2016 AGM in July, was attended by 18 members.

Our Chairman, Secretary and the Treasurer & Membership Secretary read out their respective reports, as detailed in the July Newsletter.

No significant changes are to be made this year. Aelred has not heard from Chilworth Parish Council about whether an increase in the hall hire is due. Therefore, there will be no change in the Annual Subscription Rates for this year so that, from April 2016 to March 2017, there are £27 per couple and £16 single.

The Committee members were willing to be re-elected and voted in accordingly.

Our President, Brian Evans reminisced back to the first meeting of local canal enthusiasts on Thursday 1st June 1967, at the 22nd Millbrook Scouts' Headquarters with twenty members. Brian was elected Chairman with Laurie Pearce the Secretary. Hence the Southampton Canal Society was founded. Still members today are Mrs Diana Beach, Eva Drinkwater, John Silman and David Townley-Jones, (as a young lad) brought along by his father.

With regard to our proposed disposal of the Society Library, our treasurer, Aelred, is storing more than 10 boxes of books and videos. He has examined them all and identified a small number that may have a potential value; the vast bulk of the collection has little value, most items are worth less than £5. It would take some effort, and be a waste of space, to list them all in the newsletter.

After a varied discussion it was agreed that the Committee would make a decision as to how to dispose of the low-value items, probably by donating them to other waterway charities, which hold book sales to raise funds. Aelred agreed to list the few items with a potential value above £10 in the Newsletter, and bring them along to meetings, so that members could acquire them if they wished, the funds would go to the Society. The disposal of any of these items remaining by the January meeting would be subject to a Committee decision, probably to offer them for commercial sale for the benefit of Society funds.

With regard to the Society Facebook Page, Gordon Osborn asked for any Archive information about the Society such as: a Survey on the Itchen, Society Trips on DVD, anything Historical.

Thank you to the committee and members for providing the Cheese & Wine supper and for their help in setting up and clearing away.

An update on David Townley-Jones recovery was given by Annegret, plus a card with a narrow boat on was signed by all present and posted off with our best wishes.

September Meeting

On 1st September, the talk about "Industrial Archaeology within the New Forest" was to be given by James Brown community archaeologist at the New Forest National Parks Authority. However, he will be somewhat otherwise engaged expecting a new arrival in his family at that time! So he has asked his colleague Frank Green to give the talk in his place. Learn about the past and future of the park, ice houses, fire blackened stones, churchyards with history; heritage on our doorstep.

October Meeting

On the 6th October, SCS members Eric and Sue Lewis will be "Cruising around the Canals".

November Meeting

Pete and Jane of the Day-Star Theatre will be in Chilworth for their yearly visit to see us on 3rd November. A synopsis of their new presentation can be found on page 3. Further details to follow, watch this space!

IWA Salisbury Group

Congratulations to Salisbury IWA on 25 years supporting the canals and local charities. See Tony Fry's article on page 4.

See you in September.

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Bits and Pieces

Flood hit canal reopens

A major milestone has been reached in Calderdale's recovery from the Boxing Day floods with a section of canal hardest hit by the force of the floodwaters reopening to boats for the first time.

This week we have reopened the Calder & Hebble Navigation at Elland. The canal had been closed to boats since floodwaters washed out the foundations of Elland Bridge, which crosses over it, meaning that the whole structure needed to be rebuilt.

The reopening reinstates an important link for boaters between the Rochdale Canal and the rest of the waterway network. Boaters will now be able to make their way from the main waterway network onto the Rochdale Canal where they can use the businesses and services at popular canalside stop-offs such as Sowerby Bridge and Hebden Bridge.

Engineers have been carefully dismantling the bridge Grade II listed bridge, built in 1811, with the stone being catalogued and stored so that it can be reused on the replacement bridge. At the same time similar works have been taking place at nearby Crowther Bridge which was also seriously damaged by the floodwaters.

In recent weeks engineers have been working to form the foundations at both bridges and works have now progressed to the stage where they can carry on whilst boats use the canal.

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
Wed 3 Aug 2016 7.30pm	Mikron Theatre	"Canary Girls" performed at Goring Lock, Goring, RG8 9AE (SU596809). No tickets required, cash collection after show. We'll perform under the bridge if its wet! This is an outdoor show with shelter and indoor back up.	Tel: 01484 843701
Thu 4 Aug 2016 3.30pm	Mikron Theatre	"PURE" performed at Waterfront Café, Benson Marina, Benson, OX10 6SJ (SU613916). Tickets (£12) must be booked in advance from Sue 01491 835631. Bistro menu available at extra cost on the day (no need to book). Refreshments, beer and food available. This is an outdoor show with shelter and indoor back up.	Tel: 01491 835631 Web: www.waterfrontcafe.co.uk
Thu 4 Aug 2016	Southampton CS	There will be NO August Meeting as the hall will be closed for maintenance.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 4 Aug 2016 8.00pm	Mikron Theatre	"Canary Girls" performed at Waterfront Café, Benson Marina, Benson, OX10 6SJ (SU613916). Tickets (£12) must be booked in advance from Sue 01491 835631. Bistro menu available at extra cost on the day (no need to book). Refreshments, beer and food available. This is an outdoor show with shelter and indoor back up.	Tel: 01491 835631 Web: www.waterfrontcafe.co.uk
Fri 5 Aug 2016 7.30pm	Mikron Theatre	"PURE" performed at The Plough, High Street, Long Wittenham, OX14 4QH (SU545937). No tickets required, cash collection after show. Beer and food available. Outdoor show. Bring chairs and blankets.	Tel: 01865 407738
Sat 6 - Sun 7 Aug 2016	Basingstoke CS & Historic Narrow Boat Club	Woking Canal Festival, Brookhouse Common, Woking, Surrey, GU21 5BP (TQ008593). Celebrating 50th anniversary of the foundation of both of the organising groups. And 25 years since formal re-opening of the canal. Parking in town centre car parks. Public transport recommended.	Roger Cansdale: 01252 678608 Web: www.WokingCanalFestival.info Email: roger.cansdale@ntlworld.com
Sun 7 Aug 2016 2.45pm	Mikron Theatre	"PURE" performed at Woking Canal Festival, Brookhouse Common, Woking, Surrey, GU21 5BP (TQ008593). No tickets required, cash collection after show. No public parking on site. Use Town centre car parks and walk along towpath to event (about 350m).	Tel: 01483 760161 Web: www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Sat 13 Aug 2016 8.30-10.30pm	National Trust	A night with the stars. If the weather's fine, count shooting stars with Guildford Astronomical Society - the Perseids should be at their most visible tonight. Bring a rug. Hot drinks and snacks available. Booking essential. Price: £5.00. Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4RR (SU993502). Further info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-vey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sat 20 Aug 2016 11.00am-5.00pm	National Trust	Model Railways Open Day. Astolat Model Railway Circle invite you to their open day. See their layouts, have a go, learn how they build and operate them; bring your own OO/HO or N locos to run. Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4RR (SU993502). Further info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-vey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sun 21 Aug 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk—Combe Hay Locks. Meet: The Avenue, Combe Hay, BA2 8RD (ST729599) (near the thatched cottage). See map at http://www.coalcanal.org/maps/other/CombeHay.gif	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Thu 1 Sep 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Industrial Archaeology within the New Forest" by Frank Green from the New Forest National Parks Authority. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Fri 2 Sep 2016 6.30 - 10.00pm	Kennet & Avon CT	Carnival on the Canal, Devizes Wharf, SN10 1EB (SU004617). Devizes Branch's annual celebration in partnership with the town. Free entry.	K&ACT, Devizes Wharf: 01380 721279 Web: http://katrust.org.uk/events/
Sat 3 Sep 2016 7.00-10.00pm	National Trust	Bat evening. Walk with lengthsmen, Chris, and a bat detector from Triggs Lock, Runtley Wood Lane, Sutton Green, GU4 7QQ (TQ012548) to Worsfold Gates and back. You can also make a bat box to take home. Please bring warm clothes. Booking essential. Price: £5.00, children free. Further info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-vey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Wed 7 Sep 2016 11.00am-3.00pm	National Trust	In the 19th-century, Send Workshop was the centrepiece of the Wey Navigations. As part of the Heritage Open Days, you are invited to a fascinating peek into a working 17th century barn, the home of the Wey Navigations Maintenance team. Send Workshop, Potters, Send, Surrey, GU23 7AL (TQ016556). Further info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-vey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sat 10 Sep 2016 2.15pm	Wey & Arun CT	Heritage Open Day. Alan Johnson, Technical Liaison Officer of WACT, will lead a 4-mile circular walk visiting four sites containing relics of the W&A canal and Horsham & Guildford railway. It will be essential to wear walking boots, stout shoes or trainers. Free of charge (donations to WACT welcome). Meet at Shamley Green church car park, GU5 0UD (TQ033434).	Please notify your attendance to: support@weyandarun.co.uk by 3 September. WACT Northern Office: 01483 505566 Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/events2.php
Sun 11 Sep 2016 2.30pm	Wey & Arun CT	Guided walk starting from the Gunpowder Store at Stonebridge Wharf, Shalford, along parts of the course of the canal to the former Bramley Wharf (approx 2.5km). Meet at Gunpowder Store, Stonebridge Wharfside, Shalford, GU4 8EH (SU997465). Gunpowder Store may also open.	Pre-booking required: Tel: 01483 505566 Email: northernoffice@weyandarun.co.uk by noon Thursday 8th September. Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/events2.php

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What's Good for The Goose?

This is a sequel to Day-Star Theatre's 2014 play **A Bad Penny** which was set in the village of Nether Claybourne in 1964.

What's Good for The Goose? is also set in Nether Claybourne but 52 years later. In other words, The present day.

More than 40 years ago, Lord Claybourne died without an heir and bequeathed Claybourne Hall and it's 500 acres of pasture land to 'The people of the village of Nether Claybourne'

For many years, overseen by a trust, the village has benefited from an income from letting the estate land to a local dairy farmer. Over the years this income has helped provide a modern medical centre, a community centre, a play area and a small park.

In the current agricultural climate and low milk prices for dairy

farmers, the village, now finds itself without a tenant for the land and therefore no longer an income. Over the years they have also let the Hall fall into major disrepair.

The trust and the villagers now have to decide what to do with their 'goose that laid the golden eggs'. Opinion is divided as they attract the attentions of a successful if somewhat notorious property developer. Who also shows an interest in the run down but traditional village pub which happens to be called The Goose

The story that unfolds is populated by the various offspring of characters from **A Bad Penny** as it weaves its way in and out of their lives, both past and present, and builds to a dramatic climax.

Another rural comedy from Day-Star Theatre.

Waterways Events

Continued from page 2

Date / Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Sat 17 Sep 2016 2.00-5.00pm	National Trust	Towpath to table. Join Triggs Lengthsman, Chris, on a short walk to forage some of the Wey's finest natural food and then return to Triggs Cottage garden to make something tasty to take home.... Price: £5.00. Triggs Lock Cottage, Runtley Wood Lane, Sutton Green, GU4 7QQ (TQ012548)	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sun 18 Sep 2016 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk-- Kilmersdon Colliery. Meet: Radstock Museum , Waterloo Road, Radstock, BA3 3EP (ST689549).	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Sun 18 Sep 2016 11.00am	Stroud Raft Race	Competitors in the Stroud Raft Race will use the recently reopened stretch of the Thames & Severn Canal between Wallbridge and Capels Mill. Register team(s) by 1st September.	Luciano Magalotti: 07813 441312 Email: info@stroudraftace.org Web: http://www.stroudraftace.org/
Sat 24 Sep 2016 from 11.00am	National Trust	Wey River Festival. Boats will be moored around the Wharf for the weekend. There will be lots of entertainment with stalls and activities. Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4RR (SU993502). Further info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-wey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sun 25 Sep 2016 10.00am-3.00pm	National Trust	Walk along the Wey Navigation from Broadford Bridge, Shalford, Surrey GU4 8DT (SU997467) upstream to Trowers Bridge and join the footpath to Bramley. We'll go along the old Cranleigh Line and route of the Wey and Arun Canal. Bring a packed lunch. Approx. 7 miles. urther info at http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/river-wey-godalming-navigations-and-dapdune-wharf/	Navigation office: 01483 561389 Email: riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Sat 1 & Sun 2 Oct 2016	Wey & Arun CT	Various events celebrating the bicentenary of the opening of the Wey & Arun Canal. For further details see trust's website.	Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/index.php
Thu 6 Oct 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Cruising around the Canals" 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
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 (SU182275).	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
Thu 3 Nov 2016 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Day-Star Theatre will be performing a new production "What's Good for the Goose?" See page 3 for a synopsis. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

CRT Annual Report 2015/16

CRT's annual report & accounts for 2015/16 was published on 25 July 2016. It highlights 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. The report indicates:

- Expenditure on the waterways rose by 8% to £128 million, including work on culverts and embankments; channel relining and 135 winter lock repairs.
- Less disruption for boaters, including a significant drop of almost 300 days in unplanned closures compared with 2014/15.
- An estimated 380 million visits made in total over the course of the year.
- A 50% increase in the number of community canal adoptions in

the year to nearly 150.

- An 88% approval rating from a growing band of volunteers who gave nearly half a million hours of their time (up 17% on the previous year).
- 15,800 Friends regularly donating to the Trust – an increase of 60% on the same point the previous year.
- Education, youth and volunteer programmes have seen substantial increases – 64,000 children experienced the Trust's Explorers education work.

Further information can be found on the CRT website: at: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/features/annual-report-2015-16>

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.

President:

Brian Evans.

Chairman:

Alan Rose, 33 Brackley Way, Totton, Hampshire, SO40 3HP. Tel: 02380 675312.
Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

Secretary:

Angela Rose, 33 Brackley Way, Totton, Hampshire, SO40 3HP. Tel: 02380 675312.
Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

Aelred Derbyshire, 31 Nelson Close, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 7DA.
Tel: 01794 651350. Email: aelred41@sky.com

Committee:

David Townley-Jones, Sue Derbyshire, Gordon Osborn

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:

Peter Oates, 8 Field View, Braunston, Daventry, Northants, NN11 7JS.
Tel: 01788 890102. Email: scs@sotoncs.org.uk

Society Website: <http://www.sotoncs.org.uk>**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/SouthamptonCanalSociety>

The first 25 years of the IWA Salisbury Group

In 1990, IWA member David Hankins mooted the suggestion that due to the distances involved in attending either IWA branch meetings in Bristol (Avon & Wilts Branch) or Guildford and Reading Branch, a local IWA gathering based around the Salisbury area could be formed.

The first formal meeting was held on the 16th October 1990 with David Hankins at the helm and was held at the Liberal Club, in Salt Lane, Salisbury. IWA did not wish another 'Branch' to be set up so the 'IWA - Salisbury Group' with direct links to the Avon & Wilts Branch was formed. Representatives of the IWA local groups, Southampton Canal Society, Wilts & Berks group and Pewsey Wharf Boat Club were in attendance.

A second meeting was arranged and held at the Liberal Club, Salt Lane Salisbury, the author attended this meeting.

The first AGM held on the 19th Sept 1991 saw Bill Woodward in the Chair, David Hankins as Secretary, Ray Whistler on Committee and 8 other members in attendance. Foundation members who still attend meetings include Jon Van de Geer and Ron Glover who were mentioned in these minutes. It was discussed and proposed that meetings would be held every two months on Thursdays. Topics discussed included a boat trip, skittles night, sponsorship of a handicapped boat trip, The Wantage Big Dig and a members 'slide and talk' evening. As can be seen the theme of the early meetings continue today albeit Boules in place of skittles! Ray Whistler, Patricia Sharp and Tony Fry crewed the Bruce Trust boat Rebecca for a day entertaining a group of local disabled persons on the Kennet and Avon canal.

At the following year's AGM held on the 24th September 1992, Ray Whistler was elected Chairman, Dave Hankins as Secretary /

Treasurer, with Pat Sharp and Eric Lewis on Committee.

Subsequent meetings were located at The Swan Inn, Stoford, The Old Castle Inn at Old Sarum, before a long run of meetings at Salisbury Rugby Club. However, with an unheated room and regular conflict of dates with a local cricket club and morris dancers meant that we started to look for alternate venues. A short spell at The Three Crowns, Whaddon was followed by our move to our current venue at The Green Dragon, Alderbury.

In the spring of 1996, the Salisbury Group hosted the first of many South West region AGM's, the first consisting of a full weekend of events including a short tour of the Salisbury and Southampton canal at Lockerley, East Grimstead and Whaddon on the Saturday morning, AGM at the Red Lion Hotel in the afternoon, followed by the Branch Dinner. The following morning concluded with a walk along the Caen Hill flight at Devizes. This concluded a very successful weekend that highlighted the existence and efforts of the Salisbury Group.

Since 1990, the Salisbury Group have met regularly at least six times a year, albeit a committee free zone these days reducing the paperwork to a minimum, except for a regular newsletter! We have enjoyed speakers from many varied aspects of both British and worldwide waterways and associated organisations, and have instigated a few new speakers for our meetings, who have gone onto the larger canal club circuits as speakers. The Club raise funds for waterway charities whilst enjoying the social atmosphere of like-minded members, past and current winners of the annual Southampton Canal Society annual Quiz and adopted Bridge 119 on the Kennet and Avon Canal.

Tony Fry - April 2016

Heritage trail explores Bath's secret history

The trail aims to highlight the often forgotten story of Bath's industrial revolution, guiding visitors along the canal to discover the commercial routes that allowed the city to thrive.

The trail begins with the opening of the Kennet & Avon Canal in 1810 – when large, horse-drawn boats transported goods between the busy ports of London and Bristol – and continues to the rise of the Great Western Railway Company in the 1840s. Taking in some of the most spectacular waterway structures in the country along the way – including the Dundas Aqueduct – it gives visitors a glimpse into the hidden networks that brought goods into the city.

David Viner, heritage advisor at the Trust, said: "Bath has a fantastic history, from the Roman baths through to the Georgian architecture it's best known for. It's easy to forget that alongside the grandeur of The Circus, Bath was also a bustling commercial hub, to which the Kennet & Avon Canal was absolutely central. Exploring the city's heritage is a must for any visitor, and with this trail they'll have the chance to find out how the other half lived as well."

The heritage trail booklet is free, and available at various stops along the canal.

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/>