



NEWS LETTER

Chairman's Column

December 5th Meeting

Tonight we welcome you all to the Annual Inter-Society Waterways Quiz.

As last year winners Guildford & Reading's team have organised the questions with Martin Ludgate as question master. David Doulton has kindly offered again the use of his digital projector.

Tonight's teams: IWA Guildford & Reading, IWA Salisbury and Southampton Canal Society

.Our American Supper has become a tradition, thank you all for bringing along a variety of food to share, this finishes off the evening very well.

Thursday January 2nd 2014 Meeting

At our next meeting, we will be holding our Members' Photographic Evening and Competition.

This gives everyone the opportunity to show some pictures that you feel will entertain / amuse / educate your fellow members.

Just before the tea interval, entries for the Photographic Competition will be shown. You don't have to be showing other pictures during the evening to enter. One picture only to do with the waterways from any member.

As before we hope to accommodate any format. David Doulton has offered again the use of his digital projector.

Please contact Peter Oates if you have any questions about an unusual or different format.

Notices and stoppages

Every year the Canal and River Trust carry out upwards of £45 million pounds worth of maintenance and repairs. Often, to safely carry out these jobs, they have to restrict water or towpath traffic. For the major bits of work they have to restrict both. When they do either of these they try to give as much as notice as possible. In the past they've done this via a notification system run on the old Waterscape website. Not any more.

CRT's developers, Webteam and waterway administrators have been working hard to build a new, upgraded system into CRT's website. This article explains what's new and how you can sign up to receive notices and stoppages. If you already receive stoppages from the old system please keep an eye out for an email containing instructions on how you can switch to the new system.

What's new?

There are three main parts to the notification system: the email alerts, the graphical display of notices and stoppages on our interactive map and, finally, the search facility. Email alerts and the ability to search have previously been available but both have evolved. The mapping of notices and stoppages is a brand new development. All three are explained in more detail below:

- Emails. The two major changes here are the way you select your notices and the detail into which you can go. On the stoppage old system there was a series of drop down boxes through which you chose the navigations that you wanted to receive notices for. Now, it's

To sign up for the new system, go to: <http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/features/notices-and-stoppages>

SCS Christmas / New Year Lunch

This will be on Saturday 11th January 2014, meeting at 12.30 for 1pm lunch at the Blue Hayes Restaurant, Salisbury Road, Shootash, nr Romsey, SO51 6GA.

This evening please see the Booking List and Menu Choice. Angela Rose has the lists. For those of you unable to be at the meeting, a copy of the menu is available on the canal society website at www.sotoncs.org.uk/archive/pdf/SCS-Lunch-Menu-Jan-2014.pdf

And there's also a slight bonus on this occasion: the cost is £19.95 (last time it was £20.50).

2014 Programme

Please look at the Waterways Diary on pages 2 & 3 for details of talks and speakers for next year's programme up to March 2014.

November Meeting

We all enjoyed the Day Star Theatre's yearly visit and their very interesting production "The Making of Geoffrey Phelps." Thank you to Pete, Jane and George for visiting us again.

The evening was well supported by 47 members and friends. Thank you all for your help and the wonderful American Supper.

Seasonal Greeting to all our Members

With this evening's meeting, we have reached the end of our 2013 programme and, as is usual at this time of year, I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Alan Rose

simpler. All you have is one page with every navigation listed and you just put a tick in the box next to those you want to receive. The second development mentioned above is that you'll now be able to receive notices and stoppages just for the arms of those canals that have them – thinking about using the Aylesbury Arm of the Grand Union Canal but don't want to receive every notice for the entire 130 odd miles of the Canal? No problem!

- Search facility. Using the same, straightforward, listing of navigations you can select which one you're interested in, which type of notice or stoppage (navigation closed etc.) and the date range. This'll produce a list of notices that you can simply click on to find out more, such as the reason for the work being carried and a mini map showing the extent of the restriction.
- Interactive map. Every single stoppage is now included on the map. If you're planning a cruise from A to B and work better with graphical representations than lists, such as those produced by the search facility, then all you need to do is to tick the box next to 'Notices & stoppages' in the map key and, now you can trace your route on the map and find out if any restrictions or closures will affect you. Of course, this also means that you can display other waterway information such as moorings, car parking and events enabling you to plan every aspect of your cruise all from the one place.

Although it's not active yet, there will be a Twitter feed (@CRTnotices) of all notices in the very near future.

Waterways Diary

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.

Recently, OS grid references and/or postcodes have been added (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.

Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Thu 5 Dec 2013 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Inter Society Waterways Quiz: Hosted by SCS and run by last years winning team, IWA Guildford and Reading. An American Supper will finish off the evening. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 12 Dec 2013 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Group Christmas dinner. If anyone wishes to come please let us know by 5th December. 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 15 Dec 2013 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk: Carrying Coals from Radstock - 5. Wellow to Midford. Meet: Wellow Village Car Park, BA2 8QB (ST738580).	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: mike@chapman76.fsnet.co.uk
Wed 18 Dec 2013 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The London Water Ring Main" with John How. The main now supplies drinking water to 8m people in London from a tunnel 40 - 60m below ground. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 19 Dec 2013 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"The Beginning of the Beginning of the Restoration of the SCC" by Tim Wheeldon. Meet: The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR. (ST688547).	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: derrickjohnhunt@btinternet.com Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Sat 28 Dec 2013 10.30am	Wilts & Berks CT	Walk off the Christmas Turkey. Starting at Childrey Village Green (nearest postcode: OX12 9UA) (SU361875) and finishing at the same location give or take a few yards. Bring boots, and a mince-pie! Allow a couple of hours.	Brian Stovold: 07946 524928 Email: brian.stovold@wbct.org.uk
Thu 2 Jan 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Members Annual "Waterways Photographic Evening and Competition." Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sat 11 Jan 2014 12.30 for 1.00pm	Southampton CS	SCS Christmas/ New Year Lunch. The Blue Hayes, Salisbury Rd, Shootash, Nr. Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 6GA. Please inform Angela Rose if you are interested in attending. Cost :£19.95. Copy of the menu available at: www.sotoncs.org.uk/archive/pdf/SCS-Lunch-Menu-Jan-2014.pdf	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Wed 15 Jan 2014 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The Canals and Navigable Rivers of Southern France." Dr Roger Squires will describe a unique blend of historic waterways and amazingly scenic river navigations. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 16 Jan 2014 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"The Salisbury Train Crash" by George Fleming. About a local Salisbury disaster on 1st July 1906. 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 Jan 2014 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"The Dorset and Somerset Canal & Fussell's Boat Lift" with Derrick Hunt. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR. (ST688547).	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: derrickjohnhunt@btinternet.com Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Sun 19 Jan 2014 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - The Twin Tunnels (Somerset & Dorset Railway). Meet: Bear Flat, Bath. Further details from Mike Chapman.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: mike@chapman76.fsnet.co.uk
Tue 21 Jan 2014 7.30 for 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Speaker TBA. The Grange Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation, including K&A members, £2.50 (to help with expenses).	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 29 Jan 2014 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	"More on the Restoration of the Cotswold Canals" by Liz Payne, Vice-Chairman of the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Stone Building, The Wharf, Newbury, RG14 5AS. (SU472671).	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Mon 3 Feb 2014 7.30pm	Wilts & Berks CT	"An Update of what is happening on the Wilts & Berks Canal" by Chris Coyle. Church Hall at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7AH (SU069828). Admission, £2.00 inc refreshments. If you wish to attend, it would help if you contact Cheryl Yeowell.	Cheryl Yeowell: 01793 812708 Email: cheryll.yeowell@wbct.org.uk
Thu 6 Feb 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Geoffrey Watts, a member of the "Titanic Society" will speak about the Tragedy and the effect on the people of Southampton, showing the various memorials around the town. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Thu 13 Feb 2014 7.30pm	IWA Avon & Wilts Branch	"Fallout: Roit, Aickman and the Origins of IWA" - a talk by Stuart Burrough of the Bath Museum of Work. On board "Sabrina VI", the HQ vessel of Bristol Cruising Club, adjacent to Redcliffe Bridge, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6LY (ST589724).	Geoff Harman: 0117 962 3812 Email: geoff.harman@waterways.org.uk
Tue 18 Feb 2014 7.30 for 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Speaker TBA. The Grange Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation, including K&A members, £2.50 (to help with expenses).	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 19 Feb 2014 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The Rivers and Canals of Brittany" with Graham Deavin who with his wife Lyn will talk all about this system of waterways. Having a boat based in this area, they will cover some of the major sights. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 20 Feb 2014 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Rings around London" by Robert Dean. A look at the waterways that make up the 43 miles or so of the London Ring. 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

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Centenary Of Last Attempt To Reach Basingstoke By Boat



The last boat to reach Basingstoke by canal was in 1910. Under the provisions of the Railway and Canal Traffic Act of 1888, an abandonment

private land and not subject to the Act of 1888, so the threat of enforced closure disappeared. After Christmas, enough rain had fallen to allow the boat to turn round and return to Ash Vale in early January. The *Basingstoke* was scrapped in 1932, but its metal frames were used to build another boat *Brookwood*, whose remains are still sunk in Great Bottom Flash at Ash Vale. Alec Harmsworth bought the Basingstoke Canal in 1923 and ran it until he died in 1947.

This epic voyage forms part of a new display about the canal that the Basingstoke Canal Society is hoping to install soon at the Milestones Museum in Basingstoke.

order could be applied for if a line had been unused for three years, so in 1913, William Carter, the owner of the Basingstoke Canal began to get worried. He asked Alec Harmsworth (*above*), who operated a carrying business on the canal, to try to take a boat to Basingstoke.

Harmsworth agreed and the narrow boat *Basingstoke*, laden with a token load of 5 tons of moulding sand for the agricultural engineers *Wallis & Stevens*, set off from Ash Vale at 6am on 16th November 1913. The voyage started well and they had no trouble passing through Greywell Tunnel by about midday. However, things then rapidly became more difficult due to shortage of water. They were forced to stop at Penney Bridge in Up Nately and install stop planks to allow the level to rise before proceeding. This process continued, with the boat being laboriously towed by teams of men and horses, until the outskirts of Old Basing were reached on 10th December. There the attempt finally ground to a halt with the *Basingstoke* high and dry (*right*).



See a short, contemporary film of the ill-fated 1913 journey on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wm6AO8jIvzw>

Basingstoke Canal Society Press Release, 14 November 2013

Waterways Diary

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Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Thu 20 Feb 2014 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"The Planning & Construction of the S.C.C. Part 2" with Patrick Moss. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR. (ST688547).	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: derrickjohnhunt@btinternet.com Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Wed 26 Feb 2014 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	"Waterways of Europe" by Ron & Myra Glover (of IWA Salisbury Group and SCS). This talk will cover their 2001 excursion which started in Arnhem in Holland and returned via Reims into France. The Stone Building, The Wharf, Newbury, RG14 5AS. (SU472671).	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Thu 6 Mar 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Stuart Fisher, editor of the Canoeist Magazine, gives a canoeist's view of the canal system with particular emphasis on the canals that cannot be reached by narrow boat. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Tue 18 Mar 2014 7.30 for 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	AGM followed by speaker TBA. The Grange Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation, including K&A members, £2.50 (to help with expenses).	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 19 Mar 2014 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"Conserving the Waterways Heritage" by Nigel Crowe, CRT's Head of Heritage. He will explain what waterways heritage is, how heritage assets are dealt with, maintained and restored. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 20 Mar 2014 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Disaster waiting" by Paul Barnett. This is the story of the River Severn Railway bridge. Its construction, day to day operation and its eventual destruction when it was hit by two runaway tanker barges. 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 Mar 2014 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"A Pictorial Journey" with Roger Halse. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR. (ST688547).	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: derrickjohnhunt@btinternet.com Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Wed 26 Mar 2014 7.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	Branch AGM followed by a talk on the History of the West Mills Area by Local Historian David Peacock. The Stone Building, The Wharf, Newbury, RG14 5AS. (SU472671)	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Thu 3 Apr 2014 7.45pm	Southampton CS	TBA. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com

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.

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Brian Evans.

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Peter Oates, 39 Church Street, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, NN7 3LH. Tel: 01327 341798. Email: scs@sotoncs.org.uk

Meetings:

Normally 1st Thursday each month at 7.45pm (see Waterways Diary). Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ. OS Grid Ref: SU410184.

Society Website: <http://www.sotoncs.org.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthamptonCanalSociety>

Wilts and Berks Canal News

Things have been happening recently on the Wilts & Berks Canal.

In the August issue of this Newsletter, an appeal for funds to purchase land containing Seven Locks near Lyneham to the west of Wootton Bassett. That appeal led to the successful purchase of this part of the canal by the Canal Trust.

Also in August, the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust launched another appeal: this time to save the Peterborough Arms - a pub next to the canal at Dauntsey Lock about 5 miles west of Wootton Bassett. The following letter was sent to Trust members:

Dear Member,

I realise that you have only just put away your cheque books from the Seven Locks Appeal and the Land Fund Draw but I want to use this opportunity to tell you that we have today opened a fund for the Dauntsey Lock Canal Centre project.

As many of you will know the Peterborough Arms at Dauntsey Lock closed in April and is for sale. The Trust has listed the pub as an Asset of Community Value and has until the 28th December to put in a bid to purchase it. The asking price is £325,000.

The pub will form the heart of the proposed Canal Centre and with the purchase or lease of the adjoining stretch of canal, we can run a trip boat, offer canoe/bike hire, have a shop and a café. We also plan to use some of the rooms for meetings and an office.

It is a one-off chance to purchase a canal-side pub on the Wilts & Berks and set up a centre such as this with facilities that can be used by the local community. If we do not manage to buy the pub for any reason, any money collected will be used towards obtaining canal access and a trip boat at Dauntsey.

All contributions and/or pledges to this fund will be very gratefully received.

Chris Coyle
Acting Chairman

<http://www.wbct.org.uk/branches/foxham-lyneham/news/1210-peterborough-arms-a-dauntsey-lock-canal-centre-appeal-a-loan-investment>



The Peterborough Arms. The canal lies just beyond the pub.

In addition, the Trust has asked recently for pledges for a loan scheme to buy the pub. Further details of the appeal and the loan scheme can be found at the web page given at the bottom of this article.

So that its possible keep in touch with what's happening on the canal by going to a blog that was started at the end of October at <http://wiltsberks canal.blogspot.co.uk>

Its also possible to follow Wilts & Berks news on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/wiltsberks canal> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/wiltsberks canal>

More general information about the Trust can be found at their website <http://www.wbct.org.uk>

Further information on the appeal and loan scheme can be found at:

