



Chairman : Brian Evans, 19 Lansdowne Gardens,  
: Romsey. Tel:- 0794 517115  
Vice Chairman: Les Osborn, The Gardener's Cottage,  
: Pinehurst Road, Bassett, Southampton.  
: Tel:- 0703 768116  
Secretary : Martin Cripps, 42 Delamere Road,  
: Southsea. Tel:- 0705 753241  
Treasurer & : Graham Smith, 2 Hearne Gardens,  
Membership : Shirrell Heath, Soton. SO3 2NR.  
: Tel:- 0329 834297



NEWSLETTER No. 239 DECEMBER 1990

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

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 6th December - Christmas Festivities - with Les Osborn giving a hands on demonstration on the art of painting canal roses etc.
- 3rd January - Peter Hirons of the Crofton Society. History, Restoration and Conservation of Crofton Pumping Station on the Kennet and Avon Canal.
- 7th February - 'The Chichester Canal' by John Cooper, Chairman of the Chichester Canal Society.
- 7th March - Lister/Petter Marine. History of Marine Diesels for waterway use. Present day use, hints and tips.



NOVEMBER MEETING. Peter Brougham, Kennet and Avon boat builder, drew a very large audience to our November meeting which was eager to hear all about the construction and fitting out of narrowboats. No doubt the publication of our forthcoming meetings in the national magazines helped, for there were several new faces present including a couple from Brighton who had recently bought an older boat and were about to decide how to set about renovation.

As our November Newsletter stated 'The Tricks of the Trade recounted with enthusiasm' was certainly true. We have rarely heard a speaker so enthusiastic about his trade. Several questions were asked and many tips given.

Peter was assisted by his daughter Marie, an 'A' level student. One of her subjects is communication studies and our members were asked to fill in a questionnaire regarding a boat building video.

The popularity of this speaker and subject can be judged by the fact that the talk continued until 10.30pm and it was 10.45pm before the last of us went home. Peter has already offered to talk to us again and we look forward to his next visit.

IN SPITE OF REGULAR APPEALS, few volunteers come forward to help with the tea.

Our special thanks to Jackie Coles, Eva Drinkwater and Joyce Mayhew for soldiering on - but this is not the way it should be.

Even if you don't help make the tea then surely occasional help with washing up is within the capabilities of all members.

NO HELP will mean

NO TEA

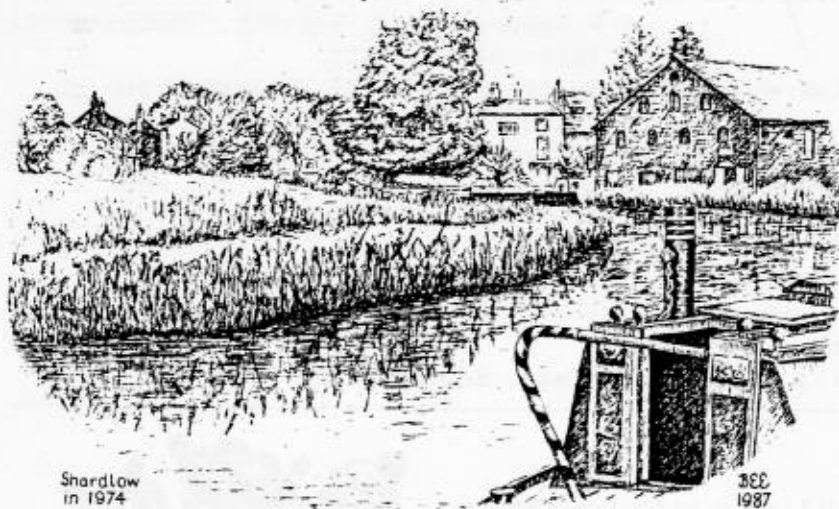
SALISBURY GROUP. The Avon and Wilts Branch of the IWA have set up a Salisbury local group which is already receiving support from IWA members and others in the Salisbury area.

For further information contact:- David Hankins, 759 Netheravon Road, Durrington, Salisbury, or Glenys Riggs on 0272 248135

TRIP TO BELGIUM. Guildford and Reading Branch announce their 1991 coach trip to the lifts and planes of Belgium. The visit is planned for the 10th-12th May 1991 to see the boat lifts on the Canal du Centre (à la Anderton) and the famous Incline Plane at Ronquieres.

The trip will include boat trips through one of the lifts and up or down the inclined plane. If time permits, the branch also intend to visit another boat lift at Arques and to visit Bruges, the Venice of the north, and one of the most delightful waterway towns in Europe.

Further information from:- Andy Simmons, 135 Broad Acres, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 3BS  
Tel:- 0483 576176



Shardlow  
in 1974

3CC  
1987

CANAL NOTELETS/CARDS from drawings by our Chairman will be on sale at the December meeting.

Printed in dark grey on a choice of cards - Dove grey recycled for the greens, or white, they will make equally good Christmas or birthday cards.

There are eight different cards available, 3 canal scenes and 5 views of Romsey.

Our picture shows 'Shardlow' and the other canal scenes are 'Narrowboats on the Grand Union in the freeze of 1962' and 'Narrowboats at Cassio Bridge'.

Sales will benefit Society funds.

CHARITY BANK. The IWA have said that since August '88 the Charity Bank Campaign has raised nearly £3,000 and the target is a further £1,500 for 1991.

BASINGSTOKE CANAL RE-OPENING CELEBRATIONS. This event will be held at Frimley Lodge Park during late spring or early summer (actual date to announced in January). A one day spectacular will be followed by an organised cruise by a few craft up and down the canal on the second day. Visiting craft from other waterways will be allowed a special 14 day licence. It is possible that applications may be over subscribed due to the moorings available and the canal's water supply. If this is the case the visiting craft will be by invitation only.

OXFORDSHIRE BRANCH NEWS. The Oxfordshire Branch of the IWA reports that the canal manager for the Oxford Canal will soon be moving into offices in the restored building near Marston Doles top lock so that the old lock cottage will become vacant and it is possible that it will be sold by British Waterways so anyone wanting to buy this lock cottage should contact the Estates Department at Watford.

Earlier this year the Branch was concerned about the future of Tooley's Dock at Banbury. However, they now have better news as it appears to be safe and Morse Marine have a short lease so that they can continue to use it for the repair of narrowboats. This is great news and it is to be hoped that the Branch activities in this direction were partly responsible for saving Tooley's Dock as there was certainly some concern that it might be swept away in redevelopment.

NEW TOW PATH. New electricity cables linking Willesden and Perivale sub-stations are being laid under the tow path of the Paddington Arm of the Grand Union Canal by Pirelli General and John Browne Construction and once laid the contractors will provide a new tow path to British Waterways specification. The Waterways Manager for London said that the tow path is a well used walk way and as well as a new surface, access to the canal will be improved.

The London Borough of Brent will be helping with the landscaping and planting along the tow path and British Waterways will be adding signs, litter bins etc. After the work is finished there will be two and a half miles of new tow path.

NEWS FROM NAVVIES No123. C 635 JMA is (or was) the registration number of KESCRG's trusty van. Unfortunately, van plus catering kit was stolen in early October. Everyone is asked to keep a look out for a long wheelbase diesel Transit crewbus with this registration number. When last seen it was a grey-green colour.

Navvies has just received news of the death of Edie Palmer, (Graham's mother). Edie Palmer was always a great enthusiast for WRG and gave enormous support in the early days, doing much of the secretarial work and running the 'Navvies' subscriptions for many years.

ATTACKED IN A CANAL. A man was recovering after being savaged by a shark in a salt water canal near his home. Craig Coleman was swimming in the canal when he was attacked. Doctors later inserted more than 200 stitches in leg injuries. It was the second attack in the canal within a year. A bait was laid in the canal and a 6ft bronze whaler shark was subsequently landed.

Do not be too alarmed, Mr Coleman lives in Queensland, Australia.

\*\*\* A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS \*\*\*

Distributed by: Hunt & Co, 123/124 High Street, Southampton, Hants, SO1 0AA.