



Chairman's Column

February Meeting

We are delighted that Harry Arnold has accepted the Society's invitation to come and speak to us about 'The Changing Face of the Waterways'. As far as I know this will be Harry's first visit to us. Harry's profile was published in the January Newsletter.

Proposed Boat Gathering

Just another reminder about our proposed informal boaters' get-together in May. Details were in the last Newsletter. If you have a boat moored in the Napton / Braunston area and would like to join in, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can judge the likely demand.

Skittles Evening

Just a reminder that the Society will be holding a Skittles Evening at 'The Kings Head' in Hursley, on Saturday 15 March 2008. See the advertisement in this Newsletter for full details. Many members have

already signed up for this event, which was first announced at our January meeting. The alley only holds about 30 and our Skittles Evenings always sell out so don't leave it too late to book your places with Rogan Olding, whose contact details are in the advert.

Charlie Dimmock's "River Walks"

During the Society's boat trip on the River Wey & Godalming Navigation last October we were told that "Iona" and its crew would be featuring in one of Charlie Dimmock's "River Walks" TV programmes. Purely by chance, Gill and I switched channels on 17 January to find Jenny, the proprietor of the Godalming Packet Boat Company, chatting away to Charlie, whilst leading Ben who was towing 'Iona' steered by Kevin. Lynn and the dogs were following on the towing path. It was good to be able to re-live our enjoyable autumn cruise.

Paul Herbert

Funding British Waterways

'How the UK's waterways are funded' features as one of the key topics in IWA's new-style *Waterways* magazine, which is due to be sent to members at the beginning of February. In researching material for the article, IWA sought some facts and figures from British Waterways, which included:

- BW receives between £800,000 and £900,000 per annum from angling. 11.35
- Water sales, to industry and agriculture, are worth £4.3 million per annum to BW.
- The British Canoe Union pays BW £53,500 for a block licence for its canoeing members.
- There were 2,175 boats declared as continuous

cruisers in November 2007.

- At the end of 2006, 7.1% boats were thought to be unlicensed; this was worth over £900,000 of licence income.
- BW recently recovered over £780,000 worth of back-dated licence fee income in a 12-month period.
- In 2006, 134 boat owners had their vessels seized by BW under Section 8 proceedings.

The article in *Waterways* also considers some of the many suggestions put forward by IWA members as to how BW could improve its income generation.

IWA Head Office Bulletin, February 2008

Waterway TV Programmes

The third series of waterways television programme Locks & Quays is being made available on the Internet as each programme is broadcast, which may be of particular interest to those outside the Granada ITV area, at www.itvlocal.com/granada/documentaries/. Scroll along the drop down menu until 'Locks & Quays'. An episode is added each week until the final broadcast in the current series, due on 7th March. The first two series (20 programmes), which were transmitted by Granada in 2006 and 2007, are also available to view. Locks & Quays is also due to be

shown on ITV in the Yorkshire Television area from 3rd July.

The current series of Waterworld is also being made available at www.itvlocal.com/central/documentaries/. Scroll along the drop down menu until 'Waterworld'. Likewise, an episode is added each week until the final broadcast in the current series, due on 7th March, but programmes from the previous series have not, so far, been made available.

IWA Head Office Bulletin, February 2008

Llangollen Canal

The UK Government formally made the nomination of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and eleven miles of adjacent canal for World Heritage Site status in January. If successful, the 200-year-old aqueduct and part of the Llangollen Canal would join the other 27 UK World Heritage Sites including Stonehenge, Maritime Greenwich, and Ironbridge Gorge. UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organisation that is responsible for the scheme, is due to consider the nomination and make a decision in 2009.

The site consists of 11 miles (18 kilometres) of continuous waterway, from Horseshoe Falls near Llangollen to Gledrid Bridge near Rhoswiell. The Nominated Site's boundaries encompass the full extent of the construction works of the canal and all its major engineering features together with areas of land relating to important views of and from the key structures.

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December Meeting

Members' Slides, Prints and Photo Competition

A return to our popular annual Members' Photographic Evening where we experienced slides and digital images from a number of members, including Eric Lewis, Andy Berncastle, Brian Evans, Alan Rose and Ken Froud (apologies if I have left anybody out but it got rather confusing as members changed their minds and entered their photographs in the competition section, instead).

We had such a large number and varied range of photographs that it is impossible to list them all. Just a selection.....

- The famous and often photographed Locomotion Bridge on the Huddersfield Broad Canal;
- Misty morning at Somerton Deep Lock, a snow scene on the River Wey, sunset at Fenny Compton;
- Old working boats, the Anderton Lift, the former Yarwood's boat yard;
- Swans seemingly mesmerised sharing their waters with model boats;
- Canoeist exiting Blisworth Tunnel;
- Vapour trail of the last Space Shuttle after lift-off;
- Baby swallows nesting in dry-dock;
- Armitage Tunnel on the Trent & Mersey Canal, shortly before demolition;
- Some particularly interesting aerial photographs taken from a 'contraption' devised and built by Ken Froud.

- And, of course, many scenes around the country's waterways network and a few in France;

After the interval we held the annual photographic competition which attracted eight entries, and as always a varied range of exhibits. It was a close run thing with the winner being Lynn Olding with an interesting and attractive vignette of a Mallard duck, alongside Buckby cans, on the roof of the Oldings' narrow boat. Apparently the duck had alighted on the boat and decided to go cruising for a while. Lynn was awarded her prize of a bottle of wine. Many congratulations Lynn.

Thanks to all those members who participated in both parts of a very entertaining evening.

We must thank Peter Oates, without whose efforts on the night we wouldn't have been able to run the event. He juggled with the slides and quickly had to load on to his laptop the various digital formats presented to him by participants. Well done Peter and many thanks for the loan of your laptop and projector.

Paul Herbert

May I offer further apologies to the member whose pictures could not be shown at the January meeting. I can confirm that the CD drive on my old laptop cannot read CR-RW discs (they weren't around when my laptop was made!). I will have to do something about that before next year.

Peter Oates

Work begins on Loxwood Bridge on the Wey & Arun Canal

The Wey & Arun Canal Trust has started the third and final phase of the ambitious project to restore the canal crossing under the B2133 main road through Loxwood.

In the first phase, in 2005, Trust volunteers built a new lock next to the road. In 2006, the section of canal next to the Onslow Arms pub was lowered to provide enough headroom for the new bridge, without altering the level of the road. The latest work finishes the jigsaw by connecting the new lock to the lowered section of canal. This will restore a link that was broken over 100 years ago and open the way to restoring the canal route to the Surrey border and beyond.

On 8th January 2008, civil engineering contractor CJ Thorne of Uckfield, East Sussex, began placing 142 piles, each up to 12 m long, to form the sides of the new bridge. The contractors will close one side of the road, allowing them to build the roof of the bridge. They will then reinstate the road and build the bridge roof on the other side. Finally, they will tunnel under the bridge, to make space for the new canal route and a pedestrian walkway. When the walls between the new lock and the new bridge are complete, boats will be able to pass under the bridge and into the lock.

The complete project including work already done will cost about £1.5 million, all raised by the Wey & Arun Canal Trust through its own efforts. The Trust's Chairman, Peter Foulger, commented "this is one of the most exciting days in the history of the Trust. Our showpiece Loxwood section is already a tremendous asset for the village and the whole surrounding area of Surrey and Sussex. It has always been our dream to remove the road blockage. After many years of planning, fundraising and sheer hard work, it is wonderful to see the new bridge begin to take shape."

The cost of building the canal bridge at Loxwood is £463,000.

On top of that we have to pay for site supervision, a part-time resident engineer and a Construction, Design & Management co-ordinator.. That brings the cost to £563,000. We have paid £24,000 to Tarmac plc for the concrete beams which are in store in their yard waiting for work to begin.

The legal agreement with West Sussex County Council was signed on the last day of October. We have had to put up a cash 'performance deposit bond' of £398,500 to safeguard the ratepayers of West Sussex in case we or our contractors should default during the work. We will get this Bond back in stages as work progresses. We have paid the County Council a fee equivalent to 9% of the total bridge costs - £35,865. This 'administration and inspection' fee is not returnable and is the standard fee which the County Council applies to developers.

We made an Appeal to members in 2006 to match the Manifold Trust promise of £150,000. They responded with the brilliant total of £173,000. Various bodies have given £7,000. The IWA have pledged £7,500, payable in 2008. Our annual sponsored walk in June brought in £12,628 towards the Bridge. We have secured an award of £50,000 from Biffa plc, under the landfill tax scheme. The Restoration Fund will provide £15,000 this year, including tax relief. In all, the Trust is fairly sure of about £450,000 in funding.

A Renewed Bridge Appeal was launched last year and has so far brought in £72,299 as at 28 January 2008. If you would like to help with a cheque send it to The Hon Treasurer, WACT, The Granary, Fritchfold Farm, Loxwood, RH14 0RH. If you pay income tax, Gift Aid can allow the Trust to reclaim the tax you have paid on the donation. A suitable form for this can be found at www.weyandarun.co.uk/bridge-appeal-form.pdf.

WACT Press Release and information from website - January 2008

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.

If YOU know of an event taking place that should be in this list then please contact the editor.

Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Thu 7 Feb 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Harry Arnold with "The Changing Face of the Waterways". Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Wed 20 Feb 2008 8.00pm	Surrey & Hampshire CS	"Basingstoke Canal Boating and Working Parties from the early 1960's" with Tim Dodwell. Parish Pavilion, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey.	David Millett: 01252 617364
Wed 27 Feb 2008 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT	"The Canal du Midi" by Brian Poulton. The Stone Building, Newbury Wharf, Newbury, Berks.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: GrahamV.Smith@virgin.net
Fri 29 Feb 2008 7.45pm for 8.00	Kennet & Avon CT	"Wilts and Berks Canal" with Brian Stovold. Turnham's Farm Hall, Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, Reading.	John or Pam Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: johns@360swift.com
Thu 6 Mar 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"The Highland Canals" with Richard Thomas. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Fri 14 Mar 2008 7.30pm	Southampton CS	Society Skittles Evening. The Kings Head, Hursley, nr Winchester. See advert on back page.	Rogan Olding: Tel 02380 263660 Email: olding@freenet.co.uk
Wed 19 Mar 2008 8.00pm	Surrey & Hampshire CS	George Fleming - "Waterways at War". Parish Pavilion, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey.	David Millett: 01252 617364
Thu 20 Mar 2008 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Paul Barnett will be giving an illustrated talk about "The Purton Hulks". beached along the River Severn to protect the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal from erosion. The Green Dragon, Alderbury, nr Salisbury, Wiltshire.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841. Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover3@gotads1.co.uk
Sat-Sun 22-23 Mar 2008	Basingstoke Canal Authority and SHCS	Woking Canal Festival and Bridge Barn Rally. Bridge Barn Pub, Bridge Barn Lane, Woking	BCA: 01252 370073 Email: info@basingstoke-canal.co.uk
Wed 26 Mar 2008 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT	"The Manchester Ship Canal" by Richard Thomas. The Stone Building, Newbury Wharf, Newbury, Berks.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: GrahamV.Smith@virgin.net
Fri 28 Mar 2008 7.45pm for 8.00	Kennet & Avon CT	"Imperial Airways" by Ken Hussey. Turnham's Farm Hall, Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, Reading.	John or Pam Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: johns@360swift.com
Sun 30 Mar 2008 11.00am	Cotswold Canals CT	Around the Cotswold Canals Guided Walks - "Over The Top and Old Father Thames Part 2". Meet at Tarleton Bridge, Coates (OS Ref S0967002). £5.00 towards restoration.	Richard Attwood: 01453 792021. Web: www.cotswoldcanals.com
Thu 3 Apr 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Steve Haywood with "Fruit Flies Like a Banana" based on his book of the same name. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Wed 16 Apr 2008 8.00pm	Surrey & Hampshire CS	"The History of Tooley's Boatyard in Banbury" with Matthew Armitage. Pavilion, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey.	David Millett: 01252 617364
Thu 24 Apr 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Narrowboats to Norway" by Clive Field. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton. (NB This is the "May" meeting)	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Fri 25 Apr 2008 7.45 for 8.00	Kennet & Avon CT	"The story of Bailey Bridging" with Pablo Haworth. Turnham's Farm Hall, Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, Reading.	John or Pam Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: johns@360swift.com
Wed 30 Apr 2008 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT	Newbury Branch AGM + K&A review. The Stone Building, Newbury Wharf, Newbury, Berks.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: GrahamV.Smith@virgin.net
Thu 15 May 2008 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Roger Cansdale from the Surrey & Hampshire Canal Society will be talking about "The Basingstoke Canal - Past present and future". The Green Dragon, Alderbury, nr Salisbury, Wiltshire.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841. Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover3@gotads1.co.uk
Thu 5 Jun 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Les Barnett (title of talk to be announced). Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Thu 3 Jul 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Dennis Bright with another illustrated wildlife talk (title to be announced). Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Sun 27 Jul 2008 10.00 - 5.00	Kennet & Avon CT	Newbury Waterways Festival at Victoria Park, Newbury	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: GrahamV.Smith@virgin.net
Thu 31 Jul 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Annual General Meeting. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Sun 17 Feb, 2, 16 Mar 1.00pm, 6, 20 Apr, 25 May, 8, 22 Jun 2008 2.00pm		Guided tours through the remains of the Purton Hulks led by Paul Barnett, Marine Historian . Meet Purton Lower Bridge, Gloucester & Sharpness Canal (OS ref S0692044) .	Tel: 07833 143231 Email: barnadillo@aol.com
21 Mar - 28 Sep 2008 10.30 - 5.00	Kennet & Avon CT	Crofton Pumping Station open every day for static viewing. See below for steaming weekends. Adults £4.50, Seniors £4.00, Children £2.50, Families (2 adults & 2 children) £11.00, Children under 5 free	Tel: 01672 870300 Email: er23fc45@CroftonBeamEngines.org Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
22-24 Mar, 3-5 May 24-26 May, 28-29 Jun 2008	Kennet & Avon CT	Crofton Pumping Station - Steaming weekends. Adults £7.00, Seniors £6.00, Children £2.50, Families (2 adults & 2 children) £16.00, Children under 5 free	Tel: 01672 870300 Email: er23fc45@CroftonBeamEngines.org Web: www.croftonbeamengines.org
23 Mar - 25 Oct 2008 10:00 - 5:00 (4:00 Weds)	Kennet & Avon CT	Claverton Pumping Station open every day for static viewing of the waterwheel and pump. See below for pumping days. Admission £2.50, Children under 16 free, but all children must be accompanied by an adult	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org
23-24 Mar, 27 Apr, 5, 25-26 May, 8 & 22 Jun 2008 10:00 - 5.00	Kennet & Avon CT	Claverton Pumping Station - Pumping days. Admission £4.00, Children under 16 free, but all children must be accompanied by an adult.	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: enquiries@claverton.org Web: www.claverton.org

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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Meetings:

Normally 1st Thursday each month at 7.45pm. (See Waterways Diary.) Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.

To Romsey by barge

The following item was given to your Editor by Brian Evans. It originally appeared on November 25, 1932. Thanks, Brian.

At the age of 92, the death occurred on Thursday of Mrs Mary Amelie Marsh, whose husband has predeceased her by some 37 years, since when she had been living with her daughter, Mrs Vare, at 23, Love Lane. Mrs Marsh was a native of King's Somborne, and she came to Romsey 61 years ago. As a young girl, Mrs Marsh was in the habit of coming to Romsey to do her shopping by barge on the local 'Barge River'.

Romsey Advertiser, 23 November 2007

UK's first canal in century

We're grateful to Laurie Pearce and his brother Colin for this snippet from the Professional Engineering magazine.

The UK's first canal to be built for more than a century is nearing completion.

The £20 million Liverpool Canal Link project adds an extra 1.5 miles of canal on the end of the 127-mile Leeds and Liverpool Canal, through the Liverpool docks on the River Mersey.

Engineering work started this month on a major section in the central docks area, including the construction of new bridges and locks, and the dredging of a new channel. The work is expected to be finished by 2009.

According to British Waterways, when complete the link will bring economic benefits to Liverpool, and "echo a time past when the city's docks were a transshipment hub for inland waterways traffic".

Meanwhile, freight is starting to return to the UK's 2,200 miles of canals and waterways. Retail giant Tesco is using the Manchester Ship Canal to ferry wine by barge from Liverpool to Manchester, while Sainsburys ferries food along the River Thames from a distribution centre in south-east London to shops in west London.

Dr Heather Leggate is one of the directors of Sea and Water, an independent organisation that promotes the use of waterways and canals. She said: "Statistics on the amount of waterborne freight shows an increase this year. More and more companies are looking at alternative ways of transporting goods, because of congestion and environmental issues."

"In terms of inland waterways there is limited opportunity. The greatest possibility is moving goods around the coast. We have 300 ports and 11,000 miles of coast in the UK which can be used more."

Professional Engineering, 21 November 2007

Thames & Severn Canal

Ownership of the Thames & Severn Canal between Wallbridge and Brimscombe was transferred from Gloucestershire County Council to British Waterways in December. British Waterways and Stroud District Council Planners are currently discussing the possibility of submitting a single planning application for restoration of the 'Phase 1a' restoration of the Canal. This would exclude the County Council's proposed road works at Merrywalks (A46), which is due to start in autumn 2008, and work at Brimscombe Port, which is being undertaken by Stroud District Council as a separate project. The consultation for the Area Action Plan for Brimscombe Port is due to continue throughout 2008, with the intention of starting construction there in late 2009.

IWA Head Office Bulletin, February 2008

SKITTLES EVENING

THE KINGS HEAD, HURSLEY
FRIDAY 14 MARCH 2008
7.30PM



£10 PER HEAD INCLUSIVE OF BUFFET

Menu:

Chicken curry,
Lasagne

or

Sweet & sour chicken

Bookings and further information from

ROGAN OLDING

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