

Newsletter

Chairman's Column

5th February Meeting

This evening we welcome Richard Thomas with another of his excellent talks: "The River Lee from Luton to Old Ford Lock, London." He will describe a journey from the source of the river in Luton to Old Ford Lock in London, with various digressions en route.

The talk covers the history and development of the Lee Navigation, with modern photographs and contrasting turn of the century postcards.

March 5th Meeting

This meeting is a special treat and is all about "Evelyn's War" as told by Tim Coghlan, owner of Braunston Marina.

Evelyn Hunt was an "Idle Woman" - one of the women who volunteered to crew a pair of working narrow boats during the second world war. For much of her time on the boats, Evelyn kept a diary on her life afloat. This wartime diary gives a fascinating insight into their daily life on the canals and the Home Front.

Tim will be showing many photographs taken of Evelyn and her companions working their boats.

April 2nd Meeting

This meeting on Maundy Thursday will be an evening with SCS member David Doulton who will be sharing his interest in "British Transport" with us. Please note that this is a change from the previously advertised meeting.

Members' Boats

An item from the Committee Meeting held on the 19th January. There was a request for a list of members with their boat names please. It's interesting when you are cruising along to spot other SCS boaters but many a time we sail past before recognising friends and acquaintances. If the member is flying a society burgee, this also gives us a clue but a list would provide a more certain identification.

Our New Year Lunch

The new recommended venue at Keets Restaurant, Ampfield was a great success. It was so good to enjoy the excellent food and the opportunity to relax and chat to members about their other interests and activities. Pictures on page 4.

Quiz winners

We missed out reporting in the January Newsletter that the "audience winner" was Eric Lewis and that the runner-up was Laura Sturrock.

Alan Rose

Notable Canal Quiz Performance

Four members of the club accepted an invitation to the Southampton Canal Society's annual quiz evening in December.

They travelled to Chilworth Village Hall to find - not a pub style quiz - but a hall with a large audience, four tables for teams and a "professional" question master and scorer... and were told that the Quiz was exclusively about canals - and not general knowledge.

The three other teams were clearly "old hands" at this event and it soon became clear that if you did not know the names of every Fellows, Morton and Clayton boat and the engines they had - or the names of ALL the "idle women" - or could identify every boat lift and inclined plane in the world you were unlikely to succeed in this quiz.

The K&A team came a resounding fourth out of four - but did do very well in the buffet.

If you would like to take part in this event in 2015 start swotting now!

Copied from the Devizes Boat Club Newsletter January 2015



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Bits and Pieces

Lost Canal Wonders

The 'Lost Wonders of the Waterways World' are the theme of a new photo competition launched by Canal & River Trust to capture the hundreds of miles of derelict canals across England and Wales.

The competition, launched in partnership with The Inland Waterways Association, is asking for photographs of derelict or unrestored waterways which capture the emotion and feeling of our 'lost' waterways to help rediscover and bring these much-needed spaces back to life.

"There are hundreds of miles of abandoned waterways out there and we hope this opens up their imagination to the potential of how their local area could look if that canal was restored over time."

The deadline for submissions is Friday 10 April 2015 and the winning entry will win vouchers worth £500 and two runners up will scoop £250. Winners will be announced w/c 11 May.

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk>

Crofton Pumps

The Pumping Station will be open free of charge on Saturday 7 February and Saturday 7 March from 10:30 to 15:30.

This winter visitors have a rare chance to see maintenance works in progress, when we dismantle parts of the engines normally hidden from view.

It's cold inside the pumping station
(Continued on page 4)

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
Thu 5 Feb 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"The River Lee from Luton to Old Ford Lock, London" with Richard Thomas. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 15 Feb 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Visit to the Ralph Allen Cornerstone Museum. Discover the stories of Combe Down Stone, the material from which Bath was built and Ralph Allen, the man behind the enterprise. Meet at the museum, 54a Combe Road, Combe Down, Bath, BA2 5HZ (ST757622). Please park considerately.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 17 Feb 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The whole length of the K&A" - Nick Channer. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 18 Feb 2015 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"Restoration of the Cotswold Canals" by Liz Payne, vice-chairman of the Cotswold Canals Trust who will describe restoration to date and current progress along the canals. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 19 Feb 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Stuart Burroughs will talk about "Fall out - Rolt/Aickmann and the origins of the IWA." 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 19 Feb 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"Restoration Update" by Derrick Hunt. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Wed 25 Feb 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	"The Wilts & Berks Restoration" by Brian Stovold. Stone Building, Wharf Road, Newbury RG14 5AS (SU472671). Free entry. Car parking £1.00.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Thu 5 Mar 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	"Evelyn's War" with Tim Coghlan. The wartime diary of Evelyn Hunt, an "Idle Woman" which gives a fascinating daily insight into the life on the canals and on the Home Front. Visitors welcome. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 15 Mar 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - Tucking Mill. Led by Mike Chapman. Meet: Twinhoe Lane, Midford. Further details from Mike.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Mon 16 Mar 2015 2.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	Guided Walk - Gunpowder Store at Stonebridge on River Wey to Hunt Park along the course of the canal. Approx 1.5 miles with level surface but suitable footwear recommended. Parking: public car park by A281 at Trunley Heath Road (SU999461). Gunpowder Store: GU4 8EP (SU998465). No booking required.	Trust Northern Office: 01483 505566 Email: support@weyandarun.co.uk
Tue 17 Mar 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	Branch AGM followed by Rob Dean, Chairman of K&ACT. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Wed 18 Mar 2015 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"The History and Restoration of the famous Crofton Beam Engines" by Jon Willis. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 19 Mar 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	"Twinning - The Kennet & Avon and the Canal du Nivernais." Di Harris will talk about how the twinning with the French canal happened in the 1970s and visits between the two. 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 19 Mar 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"Cotswold Canals - from 'Pie in the Sky' to Front Runner Project" by Ken Burgin of the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Wed 25 Mar 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Newbury Br)	Branch AGM followed by "The History of Newbury Wharf" by local historian David Peacock. Stone Building, Wharf Road, Newbury RG14 5AS (SU472671). Free entry. Car parking £1.00.	Graham Smith: 01635 580356 Email: kact.newbury@btinternet.com
Thu 2 Apr 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	SCS member David Doulton will be sharing his interest in "British Transport." Please note that this is a change from the previously advertised meeting. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Mon 13 Apr 2015 7.30pm	Wilts & Berks CT	"Canal Short Cuts" by Stuart Fisher who will talk about proposed branches of the W&B and several coast to coast canal schemes further afield. Church Hall, United Reformed Church, Wood Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7BD (SU065826). Free parking is in the Borough Fields (Sainsburys) car park whence there is a footpath to Wood St. £2.00 to cover costs.	Cheryll Yeowell: 01793 812708 Email: cheryll.yeowell@wbct.org.uk Web: http://www.wbct.org.uk
Wed 15 Apr 2015 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	"Narrow Boats to Norway" by Clive and Jill Field. The Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8AZ (SU974615).	David Millett: 01252 617364 Email: david.millett@basingstoke-canal.org.uk Web: http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk
Thu 16 Apr 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	After a visit to the waterway, Gareth Jones (chairman of IWA South East region) will talk about "The Panama Canal." 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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January Meeting

The following list, hopefully, will give an idea of the pictures shown by members.

Laurie Pearce: On his 1988 cruiser Bittern with the infamous "manikin" lounging on the aft deck, followed by the "legs & wellies" and the "beware of the dogs" sign, a Yorkie looking very cute.

David Doulton: The Barrel roofs of the Stratford Canal, the Basin and Railway Station. ON the Worcester and Birmingham Canal we saw Bittell Reservoir, West Hill Tunnel, Kings Norton Junction, amongst others.

Eric and Sue Lewis on September 27th enjoyed a day out by public transport ,to the River Wey and joined in the Dapdune Wharf Festival, particularly to see the Mikron Theatre Company's performance of "Troupers". Eric talked us through his photographs with a brief history of the Mikron theatre, established in 1972 on the NB Tyseley. Another point of interest, the Actors are now paid at the Union Rates of pay.

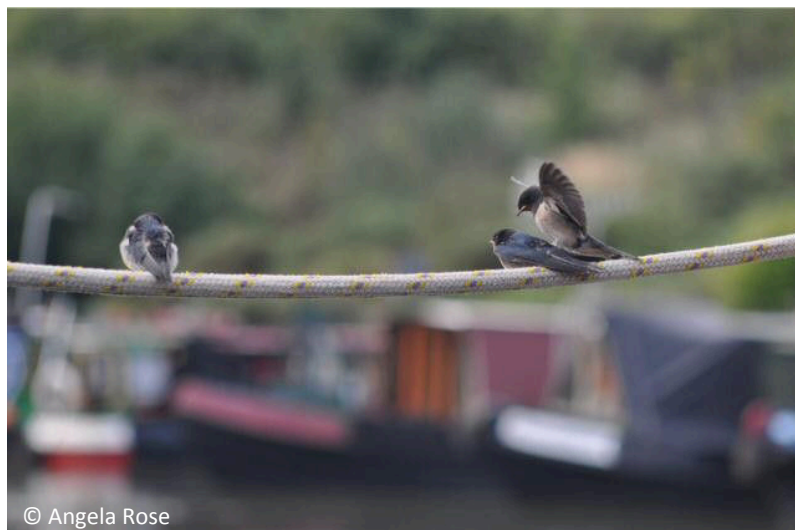
Alan Rose: Porlock Weir in Devon. The "Old" dry dock in Chester, still in very good condition. Views on the River Weaver. An update on the Ashby Canal showing the new "in-water section" in September 2014. The Pump House near this "new" bit of canal, now a private house still has the Flywheel of the pump showing through the upstairs window.

Gordon Osborn hired a boat from Middlewich Narrow Boats on the Trent & Mersey to cruise to Chester. Views of Beeston Castle, and, as the canal runs near the rail track, a very lucky view of the A4 class "Union of South Africa" steam engine. Down and up the Anderton lift with pictures of the River Weaver. Finally with Gordon's eye for unusual bits: a "concrete lock ladder". More detail in the March Newsletter.

David Wilkinson in June 2014 was so lucky to have a friend who invited him to help crew through the Lochs and Locks in Scotland. Starting from Troon, up to the Firth of Clyde, passing a trawler near the Isle of Bute, a view of the SS Waverley at Tarbet. Then to

Lochgilthead, along the Crinan Canal with pictures of moored Clyde Puffers, on to Oban and then up to Fort William and on to the Caledonian Canal with Neptune's Staircase at Banavie (these are still with BWB). David then travelled on through the Great Glen including Loch Ness to Inverness and time for David to leave. Wonderful clear photographs.

After the tea break we viewed the entries for the Photographic competition. A good choice of pictures from: Yorkie Dogs, Horseshoe Falls near Llangollen, a lock on the Caledonian Canal, a night time scene, young Blue Tits and Hungerford Town Wharf on the Kennet & Avon. The winner was me, Angela, with the Birds. The picture (below)



© Angela Rose

was taken at Alvecote Marina in late August 2014.

A very enjoyable evening, thank you to all who helped with the various technical side and to David Doulton for the use of his digital projector, and last, but not least our members and visitors.

Angela Rose

Waterways Events

Continued from page 2

Date / Time	Organiser	Details	Contact
Thu 16 Apr 2015 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	"The Coal Canal Archive" with Roger Halse. The Radstock Working Mens' Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547).	Steve Page 01761 433418 Web: http://www.coalcanal.org
Sun 19 Apr 2015 13.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	River Arun navigation boat rally exploring the River Arun from Pulborough up to Pallingham to help maintain navigation rights. Please complete application form at http://www.weyandarun.co.uk/ArunBoatRally2015EntryForm.pdf or send email. No fee - donation welcome. Launch at Pulborough slipway (TQ046185) 1.15pm.	John F H Taylor-Cram: 02392 250463 Email: rallies@weyandarun.co.uk Web: http://www.weyandarun.co.uk
Sun 19 Apr 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - "The K&A Canal at Avoncliff" by Mike Chapman. Meet: Avoncliff (south) car park BA15 2HB (ST804599), accessed via Westwood.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 21 Apr 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"The River Kennet through history" with David Peacock. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Thu 7 May 2015	Southampton CS	No meeting - hall in use as a polling station in the General Election.	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: alanjrose@btinternet.com
Sun 17 May 2015 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	Walk - "The K&A Canal at Bradford on Avon" by Mike Chapman. Meet: Avoncliff (south) car park BA15 2HB (ST804599), accessed via Westwood.	Mike Chapman: 01225 426948 Email: history@coalcanal.org.uk
Tue 19 May 2015 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	"Basingstoke Canal" with Philip Riley, chairman of Basingstoke CS. The Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading RG30 3HD (SU691719). Entry donation (inc K&A members) £2.50 to help with expenses.	John or Pam Swift: 01189 415540 Email: swift.john21@gmail.com
Thu 21 May 2015 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Richard Thomas is returning to talk to us about "A day in the life of a ... Thames Tug." This is a look at the work done by the Cory tug "General V I I I," engaged in the movement of refuse lighters. The talk features a voyage from Wandsworth to the aptly named Mucking in Essex. 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 4 Jun 2015 7.45pm	Southampton CS	John Pomfret is on the IWA Navigation Committee and the Inland Waterways Freight Group. Talk topic 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.

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.

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

Society New Year Lunch 2015



Photos © Alan Rose



Bits and Pieces

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during the winter as the boiler is not in steam and drained down but tea, coffee and biscuits will be available for a small charge.

Gosport Boat Jumble

Haslar Marina, Haslar Road, Gosport, PO12 1NU. Open to buyers 10am. Adults £4, children/parking free. Chaddock & Fox Promotions boatjumbles@yahoo.com
02392 381405 / 07887 771451
www.boat-jumbles.co.uk

Barging Around Britain

This is a new series of half hour TV programmes fronted by former BBC newsman and *Strictly Come Dancing* contestant John Sergeant exploring canals around the country. He takes eight journeys covering both the well-known and some slightly off the beaten track: Trent & Mersey, BCN, Aire & Calder, Leeds & Liverpool, Grand Union, Llangollen, Caledonian, Kennet & Avon. The series is due to be shown on ITV starting on Friday 13 February at 8.00pm with the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. The series is accompanied by a book of the same name to be published on 20 February by Michael Joseph, price £20, ISBN 978-0-718-18063-8.

Thames Lockies Required

If you fancy helping boaters through locks on the Thames this summer, the Environment Agency is looking for volunteers. If you are 18 or over, have an interest in the Thames and enjoy meeting and helping people, email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk