



Chairman's Column

September Meeting

Following the Society outing to The Watercress Line on 19 April, I am delighted to welcome Dave Yaldren to this month's meeting. Dave will be talking to us about the Mid Hants Railway Preservation Society and 'The Watercress Line'. Two of our members are, of course, closely linked to that preserved railway, Eric Lewis who is a Travelling Ticket Inspector and wife, Sue, who works in the Catering department.

Sorry that Gill and I cannot be with you this month but we are having a long-awaited break away from the normal pressures of everyday life. I am grateful to our new Vice-Chairman, Alan Rose, for stepping into the 'breach'.

Society Late Summer/Autumn Outing

This is your 'last call' for the Society's all day Three Rivers Boat Trip which will be taking place on Wednesday 24 September. The trip will start from Gosport, travelling up Southampton Water to visit the Rivers Test, Itchen and Hamble, followed by a tour of Portsmouth Harbour. Fuller details are on the back page of this Newsletter.

The trip organiser, Maureen Greenham, asks everyone who has booked the Three River Cruise to pay at September meeting or contact her on email: maureen.greenham@dsl.pipex.com or telephone 023 8040 6951 as soon as possible.

October Meeting - 'Day-Star' Theatre

There are still some tickets left for Day-Star Theatre's production of 'Put That Light Out', which will be staged at Chilworth Parish Hall at our next meeting on 2 October. Tickets at £7.00 each are available from our Secretary, Angela Rose, and our Treasurer & Membership Secretary, Anne Coleman. Their contact details are on the back page of this Newsletter. Please bring your family and friends with you and really make this a night to be remembered.

'Day-Star Theatre' – 'After Show Supper'

Just a reminder that an **American Supper** will follow Day-Star Theatre's performance. That supper will be along the same lines as previously. Wine and soft drinks will be provided but each member or guest should bring along food for all to share.

Waterways Diary

In response to the Chairman's recent plea for items for the Newsletter, Margaret and David James have contributed the following two stories. Thanks to you both.

We intended going down the South Oxford in July and someone who berths near us told us that the Claydon flight was closed for a police investigation, but just for one day. When we got there we were met by a boater and he following one-sided conversation ensued. (to save space we've left out his swear words and our comments, such as "Oh," "Ah," "Yes," "No," etc.)

"The police were here yesterday, dredging for my gun! One boater was rude to another and I told him off, and someone said a gun went off. The police said that it must have been mine, but I said I haven't got a gun. I've been out now for 7 weeks after doing 6 months for a gun offence, but they're still coming tomorrow to do

Society Skittles Evening

A further reminder that a Society Skittles Evening will be held at 'The Kings Head' in Hursley on Friday 7 November 2008. Fuller details are published on the back page of this Newsletter. Bookings at Society meetings or from Roger Olding - Tel: 023 8026 3660 Email: olding@freenet.co.uk

2008 Annual General Meeting

A report on our 41st Annual General Meeting held on 31 July has been included in this Newsletter.

Membership Subscriptions

At our AGM it was agreed that our annual subscriptions for 2008/09 should remain unchanged at £15 for individuals and £22 for family membership. It was also agreed that, in future, our membership year will be brought into line with our financial year viz 1 April to 31 March. If you haven't already paid your new subscription can you please see our Treasurer & Membership Secretary, Anne Coleman, as soon as possible. Thank you.

Narrowboat Dreams?

Steve Haywood's latest book – "Narrowboat Dreams: A Journey North by England's Waterways" has recently been published. See the full details in this Newsletter.

The Inland Waterways Association

The IWA has recently published "Our Year 2007-2008". A copy will be placed in the Society Library. IWA's 2008 Christmas Catalogue is now available and a copy will also be available in our Library.

Kingfisher Coasters etc?

At about the time of our boat trip on the Basingstoke Canal, on 19 April this year an enquiry was made at the onboard shop about the availability of coasters/mats etc carrying a picture of a Kingfisher. The shop was then out of stock. However, Maureen Greenham has been told these are now available again so, if you were the person looking for those, please contact John Gough of the Surrey & Hampshire Canal Society on 01962 713564.

Paul Herbert

some more searching." You do meet them don't you?

Of course we wanted to get away a.s.a.p., but Sod's Law wrapped something around our propeller. No, not a gun, but it meant that we had to listen to his rantings for another 5 minutes. We're now wondering whether Waterways World will throw any more light on the subject!

Item 2: We were at a narrow lock and I was chatting (so what's different?) to a Dutch lady who said it was her first time on a narrow boat and only her 3rd lock. When the levels were correct, I started pushing on the balance beam and she pushed the other way. I said, "You're pushing the wrong way," and said "No, you are." - and I was! (It's happened to all of us, hasn't it?) It made her day when I said that we've done somewhat over 12,000 locks!

August Meeting

Society's 41st Annual General Meeting

Twenty four members attended the Society's 41st Annual General Meeting held at Chilworth Parish Hall on 31 July 2008, which was chaired by our Chairman, Paul Herbert, whilst our President, Brian Evans, officiated for the election of officers and committee. The meeting followed the usual procedure and all documentation had been published in the August Newsletter.

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer & Membership Secretary presented their reports, including the 2007/08 year-end accounts, highlighting issues of particular note. Paul was pleased to advise members that, contrary to the comment in his report, Anne Coleman was able to continue as Treasurer & Membership Secretary, and Maureen Greenham had volunteered to be Assistant Treasurer & Membership Secretary.

In general, the Society continued to be successful and its finances were in a healthy position. We had enjoyed an excellent programme of speakers and other monthly events, including a number of outings and another entertaining Skittles Evening.

Many members had taken the opportunity to purchase the new range of 40th anniversary clothing. We had welcomed a number of new members but it still remained our top priority to increase membership. A number of new marketing initiatives were discussed.

Both in his report and at the AGM Paul thanked all those Society members who contributed to the Society's success.

Anne Coleman advised of an amendment to her report which had stated that the income and expenditure year-end account showed a profit of £178.67. However this had had to be adjusted and the actual profit was now £105.67. Anne also referred to proposed changes to the Society's accountancy system in order to simplify the accounts.

Regarding membership subscriptions, because of the Society's current financial position, the Committee had recommended that there be no increase for 2008/09 and further that, in future, the membership year be brought into line with our financial year, viz. 1 April to 31 March. Members agreed with both those recommendations.

There then followed the election of Officers and Committee. All the current Officers and Committee members were re-elected. In addition, Alan Rose had indicated his willingness to stand for Vice-Chairman and was duly elected. Maureen Greenham was elected Assistant Treasurer & Membership Secretary. Laura Sturrock had volunteered to become the Society's Auditor at last year's AGM and she was still willing to fulfil that role, and her offer was gratefully accepted by the AGM.

Peter Oates had indicated that he was willing to continue as the Society's Webmaster and Editor of the Newsletter.

There were two items of Any Other Business, both from Robb Unsworth asking if the Committee could consider a sound system for use by our speakers; and at our monthly meetings, after general introductions, could the Chairman invite members to raise any canal related matters. Both these ideas were adopted and, regarding the proposed sound system, possible alternatives would be examined.

Robb Unsworth also wished to take the opportunity to "thank all the Committee for the super job done by all".

Following the AGM members enjoyed a colourful and seasonal DVD covering the Great Ouse and Cam river systems. Copies are available from Video Active. (Many thanks to Peter, Laura, Gill and Paul for providing their IT equipment to enable the DVD to be shown).

Paul Herbert

Narrowboat Dreams?

Members who attended Steve Haywood's talk to the Society in April this year will remember him mentioning that he had another book in preparation. I am pleased to advise that "*Narrowboat Dreams: A Journey North by England's Waterways*" has now been published.

"Steve Haywood has a problem. He doesn't know where he comes from. In the south people think he's a northerner; in the north, they think he's from the south. Judged against global warming and the sad demise of "*Celebrity Big Brother*", this hardly registers highly on the Richter scale of world disasters. But it's enough to worry Steve. And it's enough of an excuse for him to escape the routine of his life in London for a voyage of discovery along England's inland waterways.

Travelling by traditional narrowboat, he heads north from Banbury in deepest Oxfordshire, through the former industrial wastelands of

the now vibrantly modern Manchester, to the trendy affluence of Hebden Bridge at the centre of West Yorkshire's ciabatta belt. With irrepressible humour he describes the history of the canals, his encounters with characters along the way, and the magic that makes England's waterways so appealing".

As Steve describes himself – "*At home, I'm a cantankerous old git. On the boat, after a week's cruising, I'm just a cantankerous old git with dirty hair!*"

'Narrowboat Dreams' in paperback - £7.99 - ISBN: 978 1 08024 670 4 is published by Summersdale Publishers Ltd and is available through all good bookshops and internet booksellers or direct from the publishers at 46 West Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RP Tel: 01243.771107 Email: www.summersdale.com

Paul Herbert

Itchen Navigation

The £2,400,000 scheme to preserve the Itchen Navigation between Winchester and Southampton in Hampshire was formally launched on 25th July. The five-year project, for which major works are due to begin in September is to repair river banks and the towpath along the waterway, and will provide a recreational amenity in the area, conserve and encourage wildlife (particularly water voles, otters and damselflies) and raise awareness of the Navigation and its historical importance to the area. The work is supported by a consortium of organisations including IWA's Solent & Arun

Branch and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

Work is to take place on several different stretches of the 10-mile waterway, at Winchester, Southampton, Eastleigh and Bishopstoke. The first major works to start are £80,000 worth of improvements to river banks between Wharf Bridge and Tun Bridge in Winchester. Since October 2007, the Wildlife Trust has commissioned a series of wildlife surveys.

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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 4 Sep 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Dave Yaldren will show film and talk about the Mid Hants Railway Preservation Society. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Mon 8 Sep 2008 10.45am for 11.00am start	Wey & Arun CT	"Sydney Wood Saunter." Meet in Sydney Wood car park on the Alfold to Dunsfold road (TQ028352). Circular walk about 3.5 miles long following a section of the canal on the Wey South Path from where considerable restoration work can be viewed. Walk guided by Bridget Glynne-Jones.	Tel: 01403 752403 Email: office@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 11 Sep 2008	Basingstoke Canal Authority	Learn more about the bats that live on the Basingstoke Canal. Canal Ranger Paul Hope will talk about bats at the outset then lead the group on a guided walk. There will be a limited number of bat detectors for you to use. Booking essential - £3 per person. Canal Visitor Centre, Mytchett.	Tel: 01252 370073
Sat 13 Sep 2008 10.00am	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Walk Part of the Old Portsmouth and Arundel Canal. Meet at Barnham Court Farm, Church Road, Barnham to walk to Ford. Approx. 4 mile walk, allow 4 hours and bring a packed lunch. Return journey by train.	Tel: 01243 576701
Sun 14 Sep 2008 1.00 - 4.00pm	Sussex Industrial Archaeology Soc	Guided Walk: Poyntz Bridge and Short Industrial Walk of Southgate, Chichester. An opportunity to cross the Chichester Ship Canal on the unique 1820 cast iron Poyntz swing bridge, just south of the canal basin. FREE! The walk starts at 14.30.	Tel: 01243 576701
Thu 18 Sep 2008 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Talk about the Chichester Ship Canal. Green Dragon, Alderbury, Wilts.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841 Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover3@gotadsl.co.uk
Wed 24 Sep 2008 11.00am	Southampton CS	Three River Cruise departing from Gosport at 11.00am visiting the Rivers Test, Itchen and Hamble and Portsmouth Harbour. Return Gosport approx 5.30pm. See advert on back page.	Maureen Greenham: 023 8040 6951 Email: maureen.greenham@dsl.pipex.com
Sun 28 Sep 2008	IWA Salisbury Group	1 hour boat trip along the Chichester Canal on the 12-seater 'Egremont' at £4.50 per head.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841 Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover3@gotadsl.co.uk
Thu 2 Oct 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Day-Star Theatre with "Put that light out!" which follows the fortunes of Elsie Roberts, a young mother of two, from 1939 to 1945. Followed by an American Supper. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Sun 5 Oct 2008 11am - 3pm	Wey & Arun CT	Small Boat Rally at Dunsfold (Alfold Road to Three Compasses pub). £5 for canoes, dinghies, etc. Chance to see summit of Wey & Arun Canal.	Sally Schupke: 01483 503029 Email: rallies@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Tue 7 Oct 2008	Wey & Arun CT	Guided walk along part of Wey & Arun Canal. Details not currently available.	Tel: 01403 752403 Email: office@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 6 Nov 2008 7.45pm	Southampton CS	Paul Barnett with an illustrated talk about "The Purton Hulks" beached along the River Severn to Protect The Gloucester & Sharpness Canal from erosion. Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton.	Angela Rose: 02380 403982 Email: info@apas-engineering.com
Fri 7 Nov 2008 7.30pm	Southampton CS	Skittles Evening at Kings Head, Hursley. £10 per head inclusive of buffet (see advert on back page).	Rogan Olding: 02380 263660 Email: olding@freenet.co.uk
Mon 10 Nov 2008	Wey & Arun CT	Guided walk along part of Wey & Arun Canal. Details not currently available.	Tel: 01403 752403 Email: office@weyandarun.co.uk Web: www.weyandarun.co.uk
Thu 20 Nov 2008 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	Ray Knowles will talk about the Crofton Beam Engines on the K&A Canal including their history, reason for their existence, technicalities and maintenance. Green Dragon, Alderbury, Wilts.	Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841 Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: glover3@gotadsl.co.uk
Sun 7, 21 Sep, 5, 19 Oct 2008 2.00pm 2, 16 Nov, 7 Dec 1.00pm		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
Mon 8 Sep, Tue 7 Oct 2008 10.45 for 11 am	Wey & Arun CT	5½ mile guided walk visiting parts of the restored section of the canal south of Newbridge. Meet at The Cricketers pub in Wisborough Green (OS Grid Ref TQ051261). Stout, waterproof walking boots are recommended for this walk.	WACT Office: 01403 752403 Email: office@weyandarun.co.uk
21 Mar - 28 Sep 2008 10.30 - 5.00 CT	Kennet & Avon	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
27-28 Sep 2008 10.30 - 5.00 CT	Kennet & Avon	Crofton Pumping Station - Steaming weekend. 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	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
14, 28 Sep, 19 Oct 2008	Kennet & Avon	Claverton Pumping Station - Pumping days. Admission £4.00, Children under 16 free, but all children must be accompanied by an adult. Open from 10.00 to 5.00	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.

President:

Brian Evans.

Chairman:

Paul Herbert, 25 Rosemoor Grove, Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, SO53 1TB. Tel: 023 8026 2365.

Email: p_herbert1@sky.com

Secretary:

Angela Rose, Hilo, Hungerford, Bursledon, Hampshire, SO31 8DF. Tel: 02380 632558 (day) 02380 403982 (home)

Email: info@apas-engineering.com

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

Anne Coleman, 14 Redmoor Close, Bitterne, Southampton, SO19 4DH. Tel: 023 8044 2552. Email: wiseowl@tcp.co.uk

Committee:

Maureen Greenham, Peter Oates, Alan Rose, David Townley-Jones

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:

Peter Oates, 39 Church Street, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, NN7 3LH. Tel: 01327 341798.

Email: peter@whitenap.plus.com

Society Website:

<http://www.whitenap.plus.com>

Meetings:

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

Day-Star Theatre



Day-Star Theatre are returning to Chilworth again by popular request.

They will be presenting a new family version of their very popular play for schools about the Home Front in World War 2 on the 2nd October 2008. This production follows the fortunes of *Elsie Roberts*, a young mother of two, from 1939 to 1945.

Tickets for the performance at £7.00 each are now available from the Secretary, Angela Rose (contact details above). The performance will be followed by an American Supper (see Chairman's Column on the front page)



SCS AUTUMN OUTING SKITTLES EVENING



THREE RIVER CRUISE WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2008 DEPART 11.00AM FROM GOSPORT

Visiting the Rivers Test, Itchen and Hamble
and Portsmouth Harbour
Returning to Gosport 5.30pm

£13.50 for adults, £6.75 children

Food is available to order or to buy on board

Bookings and further information from

MAUREEN GREENHAM

Tel: 023 8040 6951

Email: maureen.greenham@dsl.pipex.com

THE KINGS HEAD, HURSLEY
FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2008

7.30PM



£10 PER HEAD INCLUSIVE OF BUFFET

Menu:

Chicken curry,

Lasagne

or

Sweet & sour chicken

Bookings and further information from

ROGAN OLDING

Tel: 02380 263660

Email: olding@freenet.co.uk