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## Middlewich Breach

WORK has started on site to repair the breach at Middlewich on the Shropshire Union Canal after a 12m-deep hole was left in the canal bank in March.

The Canal & River Trust (CRT) has estimated the damage will cost around £3 million to repair.

The work is being funded by the trust as well as generous donations from players of People's Postcode Lottery and the local community, which has already given more than £25,000 to an emergency appeal.

Contractors, on behalf of the CRT, have been working over the last few months installing dams either side of the breach, removing dangerous trees and rescuing stranded boats.

Since then a temporary access road and construction site compound have been established next to the breach and an access route along the canal bed has now been constructed to allow the physical repair work to begin.

Around 4,000 tonnes of material was lost that will need to be replaced to repair the embankment. The canal repairs will include a flexible PVC membrane and a fibre reinforced lining.

The Trust is working hard to re-open the canal as quickly as possible with a target to re-open at Christmas.

Anyone wishing to support this emergency appeal to repair the breach can log on to

[www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/breach](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/breach) or alternatively text LEAK515 to 70070 to donate £5. Donations will go directly to repairing the canal.

*Towpath Talk* 16 August 2018

## Chairman's Column

## September meeting

As I shall still be away, Gordon will be looking after you at this meeting. Please welcome Tony Shadick, he has over the years joined us on various trips.

This evening Tony will be showing videos of our local waterways. He hopes to be able to show four videos, given time:

First will be the Anniversary Trip on the Basingstoke Canal in June 2017.

It will be followed by three shorter videos:

2. The Hockley Viaduct, Winchester
3. "Sprat and Winkle Line" – Romsey to Andover Railway, Anniversary 2015
4. "Jigsaw Journey on the Andover-Redbridge Canal at Romsey", our part in the celebration of IWA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 1996

Enjoy.

## October meeting

On the 4th October, Ron and Myra Glover will be telling us about their summer cruise on the steamer VIC 32 on the Crinan Canal and Scottish lochs.

## Alan and Angie's summer cruise

We set off for the Festival of Water at St Neots from the Engine House Arm on a very pleasant Wednesday evening. We motored through to the Flecknoe moorings for the first night. The first set-back proved to be that Angie had left her sleeping bag back on Purton. So we turned around and went back to Ventnor Farm to collect it.

Then on to Braunston where I bought two new batteries and fitted them. I now have battery acid holes in my new SCS anniversary shirt and jeans.

Then we went up Braunston Locks, on through the tunnel and down the seven locks on the Buckby flight. On the following day, we ended up just short of Gayton Junction for our first time down the Northampton Arm. Here we met up with two other boats and all worked together. We arrived at Northampton Lock on the River Nene late in the afternoon and headed down for the night at Rushmill lock. To the pub for the evening!

The next day we went on to Wellingborough for

## Canal Closures

As of 31 August, the following canal closures and lock restrictions were in place. The current situation can be checked on the [CRT website](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk).

## Closed:

- Leeds & Liverpool - Locks 1 to 13 and 30 to 85.
- Rochdale - Locks 5 to 13 and 34 to 48.
- Huddersfield Narrow - Locks 1E to 24W.
- Peak Forest - Marple Locks and Bugsworth Basin.
- Macclesfield - Bosley Locks.

## Reduced opening times:

night. We met up with Debbie and Boe on their way back home to the Little Ouse. They had been held up by a breach on the Leeds and Liverpool so ended up going via the tidal Trent.

Once onto the Middle Level at Peterborough we made our way to March. From here, there was the run to Salters Lode for the short trip along the tidal Ouse up to Denver Sluice - the second largest tidal barrier in the UK. Through Denver, we went on up to the Little Ouse for night.

From there we made for Ely for a few hours stop and then onwards. After a couple more stops we arrived at the rally site on Tuesday afternoon.

Wednesday saw us set off to Bedford and past Bedford to the end of Navigation at Kempston Mill. This is where the Bedford Milton Keynes link may start and end one day.

Then back to Festival site where we are at present (Monday 27th August). Tomorrow, we start on our way back via Stoke Bruerne for their Village at War weekend.

More to follow.

## Mike and Jenny Moore



Many members will remember these two from Otter's Holt at Hopwas, right next to the Coventry Canal. Some may even remember Mike's late parents, Alan and Sonia, who were active members of SCS when they

lived at Stockbridge before moving north.

Seen here at the recent Festival of Water at St Neots on the River Great Ouse in Cambridgeshire, Mike now runs the IWA festivals.

*Alan Rose*

GU Leicester Line: Foxton and Watford Locks.

Northampton Arm: Locks 1 to 17.

Oxford: Hillmorton, Napton, Marston Doles and Claydon Locks.

Regents: Hampstead, Acton, Old Ford and Mile End Locks.

Hertford Union: Lock 1.

Grand Union: Norwood Top Lock 90.

Caldon: Hazelhurst Middle Lock 11.

Lancaster Glasson Branch: All locks.

Monmouthshire & Brecon: All locks.

*Canal & River Trust, 31 August 2018*

## 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	Venue	Contact
Thu 6 Sep 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>Tony Shadick will remind us of our 50th anniversary boat cruise on the Basingstoke Canal and other videos of local transport interest. See Chairman's Column on page 1 of the September Newsletter</b>	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Fri 7 Sep 2018 7.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>"A Guided Tour of the Great Exhibition 1851."</b> An illustrated talk by David de Haan. Tickets £10.00 including a light supper. NOTE: Advanced bookings only as there is limited seating.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a> Tickets: <a href="mailto:crofton.manager@katrust.org.uk">crofton.manager@katrust.org.uk</a>
Sat 8 Sep 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sat 15 Sep 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Static (not pumping) day. Adults: £4.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sun 16 Sep 2018 12.30pm-5.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	<b>Heritage open day guided walk from Gunpowder Store (Shalford) to Bramley.</b> Approx 2.5km, 2 hours, starting from Stonebridge Wharf, the walk follows parts of the original canal to the former Bramley Wharf. Gunpowder Store may also open. Free of charge (donations to WACT welcome). Pre-book required: online, by email or phone by noon, 13 Sep 2018.	Meet at Gunpowder Store, Stonebridge Wharfside, Shalford, GU4 8EH (SU998465). Parking available at Broadford Business Park, Shalford GU4 8EP (SU998467) (behind the Parrot Inn) on the A248 Shalford-Godalming road.	Trust Office: 01483 505566 Email: <a href="mailto:events@weyandarun.co.uk">events@weyandarun.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://weyaranun.org.uk/events33">weyaranun.org.uk/events33</a>
Tue 18 Sep 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>"Berkshire Lowland Search &amp; Rescue."</b> Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Sat 22 Sep 2018 11.00am-dusk	National Trust	<b>Wey River Festival, Dapdune Wharf.</b> Boaters and visitors alike are welcome. There'll be plenty to do such as crafts and many other foodie and activity stands. The illuminated pageant at dusk is the highlight, lighting up the river from the centre of Guildford.	Dapdune Wharf, Wharf Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4RR (SU992502).	National Trust Navigations Office: 01483 561389 Email: <a href="mailto:riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk">riverwey@nationaltrust.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/">https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/</a>
Sat 22 Sep 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sat-Sun 29-30 Sep 2018 10.30am-4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>Crofton steaming weekend.</b> Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a>
Sun 30 Sep 2018 2.00pm	Wey & Arun CT	<b>Official opening of the new Summit Slipway.</b> All are welcome, especially if you have any type of boat – you can launch trailable boats via the slipway. If you wish to attend, please register your interest via Wey & Arun website.	Thricutt Slipway (on the Summit Level of the canal near Alfold and Dunsfold, Surrey). (approx TQ034357)	Trust Office: 01483 505566 Email: <a href="mailto:events@weyandarun.co.uk">events@weyandarun.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://weyaranun.org.uk/events37">weyaranun.org.uk/events37</a>
Wed 3 Oct 2018 10.30am	IWA Guildford & Reading Br	<b>Walk - New Haw to The Anchor, Pyrford.</b> Meet at The Anchor, use a few cars to drive to New Haw and walk back to the pub. Please contact Gareth Jones on 07850 819071 for further details	The Anchor, Pyrford Lock, Wisley, Woking GU23 6QW (TQ053592).	Gareth Jones: 07850 819071 Email: <a href="mailto:gareth@hillhouse.farm">gareth@hillhouse.farm</a>
Thu 4 Oct 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>The steamer VIC32. Ron and Myra Glover will tell us about their Scottish cruise on the steamer VIC 32. This will include the Crinan Canal.</b>	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Sat 6 Oct 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sat 13 Oct 2018 10.15am-3.30pm	Wilts & Berks CT	<b>Wilts &amp; Berks Canal Trust AGM</b>	Old Mill Hall, School Lane, Grove, Wantage, Oxon OX12 7LB (SU399903).	Trust Office: 0845 625 1977 Email: <a href="mailto:info@wbct.org.uk">info@wbct.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="https://www.wbct.org.uk/">https://www.wbct.org.uk/</a>
Sat 13 Oct 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Static (not pumping) day. Adults: £4.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Tue 16 Oct 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>"Model buildings including Aldermaston ticket office"</b> with Avril Burdett. Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) – to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.

## Waterway Events (continued from page 2)

Date/Time	Organiser	Details	Venue	Contact
Wed 17 Oct 2018 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	<b>"The Life of Brookwood Cemetery"</b> - Kim Lowe's talk will cover the creation of the cemetery, the design, and the people who have been laid to rest in the cemetery.	Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Email: <a href="mailto:chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk">chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk">www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a>
Thu 18 Oct 2018 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>"Stotherts and the canal"</b> by Stuart Burroughs.	Radstock Working Men's Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547). For location <a href="#">see map here</a>	Steve Page: 01761 433418 Email: <a href="mailto:membership@coalcanal.org.uk">membership@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Thu 18 Oct 2018 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	<b>"A Sorry Affair."</b> Peter Oates will talk about the Southampton & Salisbury Canal which was a child of the canal mania of 1792. However, this a sad tale of a badly managed project which cost a lot of money with an uncompleted canal.	The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR (SU182275).	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: <a href="mailto:glover.3@btinternet.com">glover.3@btinternet.com</a> Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Sat 20 Oct 2018 10.00am-5.00pm	The Claverton Group	<b>Claverton Pumping Station.</b> Pumping day. Adults: £6.00, Children under 16 free, no concessions.	Claverton Pumping Station, Ferry Lane, Claverton, Bath, BA2 7BH (ST790643).	Tel: 01225 483001 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@claverton.org">enquiries@claverton.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.claverton.org">www.claverton.org</a>
Sat 28 Oct 2018 10.30am-4.30pm	Kennet & Avon CT, Crofton Branch	<b>Crofton Halloween steaming.</b> Adults: £8.00 Concessions: £7.00 Children under 16: Free.	Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW (SU261623).	Web: <a href="http://www.croftonbeamengines.org">www.croftonbeamengines.org</a>
Thu 8 Nov 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>"Canalling in the late 50's and 60's"</b> is the title of Nick Grundy's talk. This will be based upon the diaries of his grandfather's holiday and campaign cruises.	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>
Mon 12 Nov 2018 7.30pm-10.30pm	Kennet Valley Village Hall	<b>"The Introduction of Jet Aircraft to the RAF."</b> A talk, by Air Vice-Marshal Graham Skinner CBE, highlighting issues as the RAF replaced piston engines with jets after 1945. Tickets £10.00 including a light refreshments. Bar available. Event in support of RAF Benevolent Fund and Crofton Beam Engines.	Kennet Valley Hall, Overton Road, Lockeridge, Marlborough, Wilts, SN8 4EL (SU147678).	Web: <a href="http://www.kvh.org.uk">www.kvh.org.uk</a> Tickets: <a href="http://events@kvh.org.uk">events@kvh.org.uk</a>
Thu 15 Nov 2018 7.30pm	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>"John Padmore - 19th Century Engineer &amp; Polymath"</b> by Richard Ross.	Radstock Working Men's Club, The Street, Radstock, BA3 3PR (ST688547). For location <a href="#">see map here</a>	Steve Page: 01761 433418 Email: <a href="mailto:membership@coalcanal.org.uk">membership@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Thu 15 Nov 2018 7.30pm	IWA Salisbury Group	<b>Vic 32, a Clyde Puffer.</b> Ron & Myra Glover together with Dave Thomas took a week's holiday on Vic 32. They will be relating their experiences whilst onboard as they pass through the locks on the Crinan Canal and around the Western Isles of Scotland	The Green Dragon, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, Wilts, SP5 3AR (SU182275).	Ron & Myra Glover: 01722 710322 Email: <a href="mailto:glover.3@btinternet.com">glover.3@btinternet.com</a> Jon Van de Geer: 01722 412841
Sun 18 Nov 2018 10.00am	Somersetshire Coal CS	<b>Walk - Combe Hay Locks and the Engine Site</b> guided walk to view the locks, some of which are on private land.	Meet at layby opposite Bridge Farm, Combe Hay, BA2 7EE (ST745604)	Derrick Hunt: 01225 863066 Email: <a href="mailto:workparty@coalcanal.org.uk">workparty@coalcanal.org.uk</a>
Tue 20 Nov 2018 7.45pm	Kennet & Avon CT (Reading Br)	<b>Members slide show and Christmas "party"</b> - Please bring food. Entry donation £2.50 (incl K&A members) - to help pay for the meeting.	Grange Free Church Hall, Circuit Lane, Southcote, Reading, RG30 3HD (SU692718).	John Swift: 0118 941 5540 Email: <a href="mailto:swift.john21@gmail.com">swift.john21@gmail.com</a> Mobile: 07533 886917.
Wed 21 Nov 2018 8.00pm	Basingstoke CS	<b>"The History and Restoration of the Paddle Steamer Medway Queen - Heroine of Dunkirk."</b> Pam and Mark Bathurst will talk the Medway Queen. Launched in 1924, it saw service on the Thames estuary until 1963, with 7 trips to Dunkirk in 1940. It was an Isle of Wight nightclub 1966-74, returned to the Medway in 1984, followed by rebuilding of her hull.	Parish Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Station Road, Chobham, GU24 8AZ (SU974615)	Email: <a href="mailto:chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk">chobham.talks@basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk">www.basingstoke-canal.org.uk</a>
Thu 6 Dec 2018 7.45pm	Southampton CS	<b>Inter-Society Waterways Quiz.</b> Salisbury IWA will be in charge of this year's quiz evening.	Chilworth Parish Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, SO16 7JZ (SU410184).	Angela Rose: 02380 675312 Email: <a href="mailto:alanjrose@btinternet.com">alanjrose@btinternet.com</a>



## Berthon Collapsible Boat

Following the article reproduced in the April issue of the Newsletter, I recently found a picture that I thought members might find interesting.

The postcard, dating from around 1905, shows one of the collapsible boats on the River Test with Romsey Abbey in the background.

No small boat, by my reckoning it must be a load of around 8 tons as I think it contains in the region of 50 men.

There is a similar number of people on the bank

Peter Oates

## 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 in this issue) 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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**Society Website:** <http://www.sotoncs.org.uk>

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

## Jim and Monica Lanigan

The sad news of Monica Lanigan's death, in the February Newsletter, has prompted me to write a few notes on their boating activities which I think would fit in with our History Series.

Jim and I both worked at the Ordnance Survey, though never in the same department. For many years we both belonged to the OS Cine Club. From time to time it would be Jim's turn to show what he had produced. Much of his filming was linked to his interest to boats and water.

One of their claims was that they had been up many estuaries and creeks along the South Coast from Kent to Cornwall. Many of their trips were in a small sailing dinghy which came in kit form and which Jim had assembled. A great number of these dinghies were sold and became quite a well-known class. The Lanigan's dinghy ended up in a museum. I

remember seeing pictures of them setting off with the dinghy strapped to the roof rack of their Rover 2000.

Jim showed a number of completed cine films at Cine Club. Some I remember – The construction of the Itchen Bridge from beginning to end, A holiday trip on a river hotel boat on the river Duo in Portugal and A cruise on the QEII.

They once hired a boat from Caley Cruisers on the Caledonian Canal. When they crossed Loch Ness the water was very choppy. There was a shot in their film of poor Monica looking very unhappy. She was certainly not enjoying that moment in her holiday.

Jim belonged to the Royal Navy Voluntary Reserve and occasionally went to sea on training exercises.

Jim and Monica also had an inflatable boat. They brought it along to take part in the "Jigsaw Journey" on the Itchen in 1996, when members of Southampton Canal Society celebrated the IWA's 50th anniversary

Luckily, shortly after Jim died, Monica passed all Jim's films to the Wessex Film and Sound Archives in Winchester. There, some of it, certainly the local footage, will be copied and held for viewing in the future.

Brian Evans



Above: Monica and Jim in their black and orange inflatable on the Itchen Navigation below Mans Bridge.



Right: In the right foreground Monica and Jim listen to the speeches of the Mayors of Southampton and Eastleigh, and Mike Laishley, Chairman of the IWA Solent and Arun Branch, before cruising with the flotilla downstream to Woodmill. Sat on the bank behind the mayoral party is a much younger version of your editor!