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FREE TO
MEMBERS



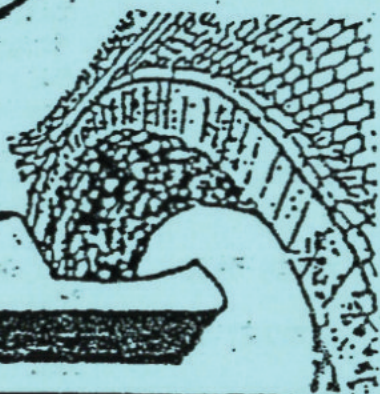
FORMED



IN 1983

THE

WHARFINGER



Journal of the Herefordshire and
Gloucestershire Canal Society

EDITION NO.

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AUTUMN

1989

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The Society with problems which most closely parallel those we face is the Wy and Arun. The canal linking the Thames to the South Coast was closed in 1875, six years before the H & G, and the line is now in the ownership of some 40-odd private individuals. Consequently, the manner in which Wy-South, as the Society is colloquially known, has organised itself, should be of interest to us. The officers listed in their quarterly bulletin are as follows:

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENTS

CHAIRMAN

VICE CHAIRMAN

HON SECRETARY

HON TREASURER

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

CONSERVATION OFFICER

EDITOR & PRESS OFFICER

PUBLICITY

ARCHIVIST

HON CONSULTANT

ENGINEERING GROUP:

Manager

Consultant

Structures & Surveys Manager

Plant Manager

RESTORATION GROUP:

Manager

ESTATES GROUP:

Manager

Landowner Liaison Officer

Local Authority Liaison Officer

FUND RAISING GROUP:

Sales Manager

Waste Recycling Manager

Sponsored Walk Organiser

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU - NOW^o

Are you happy to let someone else do all the work?
Are you content to let the same people who have been responsible for the Society's achievements so far continue to shoulder the entire load?

Wouldn't you like to be member of a strong, active Society which has many interesting and enjoyable activities? You could, if you were prepared to put a little effort into it, yourself.

If you are able to spare a few hours each month, if you can organise, if you have an ability to talk with people in a persuasive manner, you could aid your fellow members and help to create a better Society.

Why not give it a try?

Contact me on 269704(home), 269605(work) or

Mike Potts on 356392(home), 279123(work).

Don't ponder, do it now.

Remember.....

I'm not talking to someone else.

I'm not talking to some other reader.

I'M TALKING TO YOU, RIGHT NOW^o

Tony Austin-Bailey

Chairman

INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION
"WATERWAYS FOR ALL" CAMPAIGN

Those readers of the national waterways press will already be aware that the IWA is seeking *additional* funds to pay for the "Waterways For All" campaign - a £100,000 target has been set, a great deal of money - why is it needed and is the Canal Society involved?

Answering the first point, and cutting a long story short, the money is needed to finance an Appeal to the High Court over a legal judgement regarding rights of navigation on the Yorkshire Derwent. If it is allowed to go unchallenged, the judgement may well be used to stop rights of navigation on other rivers, lakes and (in a limited number of cases) canals.

Until this judgement, it had been assumed that the 1932 Rights of Way Act gave some protection to the *continuance* of the use of certain waterways. The ruling is that the passage of the public in boats is not "...enjoyment of a way over land covered by water..." - so established "rights of use" are virtually impossible to prove! So regular use by boaters (unlike pedestrians on a footpath) does not count as evidence of a right of way!

The IWA has obtained Counsels Opinion which suggests that there is a very good chance of getting the judgement overturned. The Yorkshire Derwent Trust is, therefore, seeking to Appeal - with the financial backing of the IWA.

Our Canal Society has received very strong support (and financial backing) from the IWA. All Canal Societies (and individual Members of the IWA) have been invited to contribute to this campaign as this judgement could be the start of a wider restriction on waterways use brought about by rich landowners and misinformed "protection" societies. Lack of funds must not be allowed to stop this important legal challenge. Your Committee has decided to donate £100 to the campaign. It may seem like "sending coals to Newcastle" but to support *our supporters* at such a critical time was considered essential if waterways were to be for the benefit of us all.

BITS N PIECES

Well the society has it's own caravan and awning. A very comfortable 4 berth caravan with cooker and sink. Just the job for visiting shows.

Our thanks to Ian Reid who has just sold it to us at a give away price. (We havent paid him yet!) Hereford Camera Centre has promised to pay half provided their sponsorship is shown on it.

Sorry your Wharfinger is late but things have been rather hectic lately.

Well I have organised two sucessful outings this year. Both had lovely sunny days, not too difficult this year. Both have been a sell out.

June's outing took us to the Thropshire union canal. We visited Bunbury staircase locks, very busy. Picnic lunch at the Barbridge Inn a very pretty spot, followed by afternoon tea while cruising the canal.

Our second trip was in July and to the Kennett and Avon canal again. It was really just too hot. We cruised through several locks and back in an open sided narrow boat. We then made a short visit to the canal centre at devises. Time and heat prevented us from the intended visit to the Gaen hill flight of locks.

Every one seemed to have enjoyed themselves and seem keen to go again. Sorry but I had intended arranging a trip to the Abergavenny canal for this month, my appologies one can only do so much.

Well i am off on holiday next week. Saturday the 9th of September is the start of a week cruising some of the Leeds and Liverpool canal. Not too far as there are many places I want to visit and many locks and swing bridges too.

We intend visiting; Saltaire, Bigley, Bradford, Leed and York, not all by boat though.

KEEP SENDING YOUR STAMPS

We can make good use of your unwanted green shield stamps, petrol vouchers, etc...

GLOUCESTER BRANCH IWA - EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 1989

Tuesday 12th September. 7.30pm.

Tewksbury Marina Clubhouse.

British Waterways - Regionalisation & Changing Roles.

A talk by Andrew Stumpf. Formerly in the Marine Section, now (Waterways Manager.)

River Severn & Gloucester & Sharpness Canal.

Members & Non Members all welcome.

OCTOBER 1989

Tuesday 17th October 7.30pm. A Friends Event.

Museum Schools Room. National Waterways

Museum Gloucester.

The Severn Navigation. A talk by Fred Rowbotham.

NOVEMBER 1989

Tuesday 14th November, Illustrated Talk,

Canals as Nature Reserves, by Bob Warren

Chairman of Coombe Hill Nature Reserve,

Tewksbury Marine Clubhouse. 7.30pm

DECEMBER 1989

Tuesday 19th, Pre Christmas meetings by the Friends,

Waterways Films, followed by Mince Pies and Coffee,

Museum Schools Room. National Waterways Museum Gloucester 7.30pm.

WORKING PARTIES

SUNDAY WORK PARTIES FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

site, Crews Bitch, 10.30am start.

October 1st, November 5th, December 3rd

and the 7th January 1990.

as published

WORD SEARCH

Q N A R R O W B O A T E A Z W
Y T I O M S I A W U U G P M I
E O D A V U N A S L N D X A N
D B P O U N D C J H N I K L D
I C A B I N I H T Y E R T L L
H S E R U D N E Z I L B O E A
K O E E Q R G R A N T W W T S
N C B T C E H E A S G E P T S
O I Z A A D O F L O C K A B U
M E S W G G L O U C E S T E R
X T F H P E E R K A I T H U S
A Y F A G I M D R N V G Y P S
L Y P R E S T O R A T I O N X
Z A F H U O L P J F M B R S X
X B A S I N P A D D L E S I N

There are 29 words for you to find in the puzzle above, they are :-

BARGE	MALLET	SOCIETY
BASIN	MAP	SPOIL
CABIN	MONKHIDE	TOWPATH
CANAL	MUD	TUNNEL
DREDGE	NARROWBOAT	WASH
GATES	PADDLES	WATER
GLOUCESTER	PEGS	WHARF
GRANT	POUND	WINDING HOLE
HEREFORD	RESTORATION	WINDLASS
LOCK	SKEWERIDGE	

Good Luck!

Karen McKay.

WATERWAYS FOR ALL


As you may have read in the last edition the Inland Waterways Association Derwent Appeal needs funds. As we have received a great deal of help from the IWA including finance, it was agreed that we donate £100 to the appeal, for which we got a plaque. Any profit from the two canal trips would be topped up from funds to make this sum.

Waterways for All Appeal

I am writing on behalf of the Waterways for All Committee to thank the Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Canal Society for its generous donation of £100 to this important appeal. Your support is much appreciated and is of great encouragement to those involved in the campaign.

I should be pleased if you would pass on our thanks to the Committee and members of the Society.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,


KENNETH GOODWIN
National Chairman
The Inland Waterways Association

NATIONAL RALLY

Our Stand was at the National Waterways Rally again this year.

This time the event was held at Waltham Abbey. It was a very good site alongside the River Lee in a rural setting.

We managed to raise by sales, a bottle draw and a lucky dip well over £200. Unfortunately due to a vehicle breakdown we ^{had} to hire a van which rather a large hole in profits made.

A great deal of effort was put in by the team who gave up most of their Bank Holiday time. Many miles were travelled at their own expense.

Next year the Rally is on our own doorstep:- Gloucester and all the stops will be out to make a great impression there.

Our thanks go out to the following members whose work made the weekend possible.

Ian Reed,

Tony Austin-Bailey,

Mike Potts,

Nigel Jefferies,

Karen McKay,

Derek Gray,

Stewart & Gill Smith,

Keith Miles,

Natalie Smith,

Ian Bartlett.

We also thank other members of the Committee in helping to put together our stand.

We would also like to thank the following for donations to our bottle stall.

Threshers, High Street, Leominster.

Tanners.

Davies Brooks.

Ian Hine.

Dutton Properties (Hereford) Ltd.

Robert Barnes.

Malcolm Brindley.

Ian Edworthy.

Hereford Camera Centre.

Jewsons.

A SOCIETY DIES

This is the sad tale of a Society run by members named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was a job to be done

Somebody would do it;

Anybody could do it;

Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about this, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Anybody and Everybody wouldn't do it.

The end was that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

The Society closed.

YOUR SOCIETY NOW

Your Society is entering a new era in its existence.

Thanks to your committee's efforts, in the last year we have really begun to make our mark.

The public relations day at Gloucester Docks in May produced a lot of interest among local councils and many are now anxious to aid our endeavours. To avoid a loss of impetus, a further meeting is planned for September.

We are looking at a joint venture with the Leadon Valley Electric Railway Association for the Ledbury-Gloucester stretch and this is creating a lot of interest within the Forest of Dean District Council.

Several new restoration sites have been identified.

Discussions have been held with the Department of Transport and their consultants for the A49 by-pass. The latter have agreed to carry out a brief survey of the length from the Lugg crossing to a basin in Hereford city free of charge. The survey report will be used as part of an application for grant aid to pay for a full survey.

Once again, we shall be attending the IWA National Rally in August; this year it is being held at Waltham Abbey on the Lea Navigation.
A third Open Day is planned for next year.

The new company will be formed later this year or early next, the costs being met by the IWA as a direct result of the impression created in May.

BUT, restoration progress this year has been slow; two Waterway Recovery Group work camps, planned for this year, have had to be called off because we were unable to organise our end of the arrangements - through shortage of manpower rather than lack of knowledge - because all aspects of the work of the Society are being handled by the same dozen or so committee members. Now perhaps the relevance of the tale at the beginning can be seen.

Right now, members to undertake the following jobs are desperately needed:

- Work party organisation
- Publicity
- Press and broadcasting relations
- Fundraising
- Membership recruitment
- Evening and weekend social events
- Landowner liaison
- Local and water authority liaison
- Magazine publication and distribution

None of these call for physical strength, and none involve getting wet or dirty.

In order to grow, we need more members and more funds. When we have them, finding people to do the jobs won't be so difficult.

However, in the meantime - say for the next year or so - to get more members, to raise more funds, we need help from our existing membership.

Don't think our difficulties are unique. Other groups have met and overcome similar problems by defining the tasks which must be performed and drawing people from the ranks of those, like many of you, who are anxious to help but who think that the help they can give us is not the sort we need.

Our special thanks to kind lady who left the lovely fruit cakes at the shop for us. All were sold in the first hour! Please contact me so I can thank you personally.

A lot of work making a sucessful event, we are now all recovering!

Look out Gloucester 1990- Here we come!

Mike Potts.

SOCIETY SOCIAL EVENINGS.

Please come along, bring your friends, enjoy yourself. Relax, meet other members, exchange views and news, learn about the canal and how you can help us. Come along to; THE ANTELOPE INN BARTON ROAD HEREFORD from 8.00 pm. on

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Not already you cry. Well its just that the next edition will not be out unti December so please consider a membership or some of the items, including greetings cards from the back page

"The Wharfinger" is published quarterly in March, June, September and December.

Editors; Mike Potts 3 Cranstone Upper Breinton Hereford.

Karen Mc Kay Rosebank Bridge Lane Wellington Herefordshire.

Items for inclusion should be received by the 12th of the previous month.

Our thanks to :

The Hereford Resource Centre St Owen St Hereford

SALES

BOOKS:

"The Hereford and Gloucester Canal"

by DAVID BICK

The hard backed book of our Canal.....£5.50

"The Dairy of a Rowing Tour from Oxford to
to London in 1875" by Howard Williams..£4.50
(including navigation of the H. & G.
and the River Wye.)

COLOURFUL TEA TOWEL WITH CANAL SCENE.....£1.99
Various designs, please ring for details.

POSTCARDS 10p each: 1) Lydney Canal Docks,
2) Gloucester Docks,
3) The Wave at Gloucester Docks
(Historic Scenes)

All purpose GREETING CARD Hereford Canal Basin
Large, with envelope.....35p

BUY A SOCIETY T-SHIRT, SWEATSHIRT OR POLO SHIRT
Printed; "Help restore the Hereford & Gloucester
Canal". T-Shirts & Sweatshirts in Black & Gold
print.

Double knit: 24-26" 28-30" 32"..£4.50 S M L..£5.50
Sweatshirt: 26" 28" 30" 32"...£8.95 S M L..£9.95

Polo Shirt in Navy with Gold-print. Short Sleeved
with pocket. Adult sizes only. S M L..£9.75

Some sizes to order, we have limited stock.

ALL SALES: Mike Potts or Karen McKay.

Addresses inside front cover.

Postage extra unless we can deliver
easily. Thank you for your support.