BROADSHEET

Magazine of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Society



Princefield Bridge, Penkridge

Photo by Ian Cowdale



Volume 61 Number 666 April 2019

Price £1
Free to Members

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Society 2018-19

President:: Ann Pollard (sunbeam2@btinternet.com)

Vice Presidents: *Jean Dobbs, Alan Emuss, Peter Freakley, Derek Overton Geoffrey Whittaker JP, Robert Cox, Liz Osborn, Carol Aldridge and C Dyche.*

Committee

Secretary

Ann Pollard 01384 376585 8 Firmstone Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge DY8 4NT sunbeam2@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary

Colin Beard 01384 918774 14 White Harte Park Kinver,Staffs, DY7 6HN email kinverpooky@gmail.com

Broadsheet Editor

lan Cowdale 01902 820197 31 Church Hill, Penn, Wolverhampton WV4 5PD cowdale@tinyworld.co.uk

Work Parties

Vacant

Society Sales

Vacant

Treasurer

Christopher Dyche 01384 375582 65f Platts Crescent, Amblecote, Stourbridge. DY8 4YY christopherdyche@hotmail.com

Conservator

Fred Cooke.
Orchard House.
Old Lane, Wightwick,
Wolverhampton. WV6 8DQ
Tele 01902 761441. Mob 07711 392442
freddiecooke@aooglemail.com

Colin Cartwright 34 Swinford Way Swindon Dudley DY3 4NE

Cruising Officer

Non-Committee Posts

Raffles

Peter & Ann Cuthbert 01902 753733 55 Green Lane, Aldersley, Wolverhampton WV6 9HX

> Length Scheme Derek Overton 01746 718571

WebsiteBari Pollard
www.pchelperathome.co.uk

Cruising Awards
Ann Pollard 01384 376585
sunbeam2@btinternet.com

Education & Resources Carol Aldridge

Committee Meetings

Committee meetings held at the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge starting at 7:30, usually second Wednesday of the month—open to committee members only.

BROADSHEET

Editor: Ian Cowdale 01902 820197 cowdale@tinyworld.co.uk

DTP: Steven Gray 01384 827745 wharfinger@blueyonder.co.uk

Advertising: Colin Cartwright 01384 292881

Printing: Rotary Printers Ltd, Stourport. On Severn. 01299 823839 studio@rotaryprinters.co.uk **Copy deadline:** 20th of the month preceding issue

The contents of this magazine are printed as a matter of information for members of the SWCS but may not necessarily be the official policy, or opinions of the Committee. No item may be used without the prior consent of the editor, except for comment by other Society magazines

CONTENTS

Page	
5	Editorial.
6	£835.800 Lottery boost for viaduct
7	Membership Renewal 2019
8	Navigation Notices
10	Spring Cruise
15	Carbon Monoxide detectors
16	Changes to short term boat licences
17	Price rise for London moorings
18	On line moorings policy updated Roundhouse restoration starts
20	Rivers of plastic
21	Model Railway Exhibition
25	Diary Dates Events Electronic Broadsheet

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Society

Registered Charity number 243702





BOAT CANOPIES, BOAT, CAR & CARAVAN TRIMMING HOUSEHOLD UPHOLSTERY - MOTOR CYCLE SEATS

Ashwood Marina, Greensforge, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 0AQ Telephone: 01384 279527



Licensing through Ruth will help the Stourbridge Navigation Trust and also further the aims of the Society Tele 01384 375582

ALL BOATS NEED A LICENCE

Renew yours with:

Ruth Dyche

65F Platts Crescent

Amblecote

Stourbridge

West Midlands

DY8 4YY

WHY NOT GIVE HER A CALL!

Ashwood Marina



The Team At Ashwood Marina Offers a Comprehensive Package of Facilities and Services to **Complement Our Beautiful Moorings:**

Want to Sell Your Boat?

Due to a successful sales period, we are now looking to replenish our stock of Narrowboats and Cruisers. We offer a caring service and competitive brokerage fees fuse; to the largest such as hull refurbishment,

New Boat Sales

We work with you to build the boat of your dreams for a highly affordable price. Sailaways also available www.perrydalenarrowboats.co.uk

Used Boat Sales:

Wide range of narrowboats and cruisers covering all requirements and budgets. For new and used details go to www.ashwoodcanalboatsales.co.uk

Visit www.ashwoodmarina.co.uk for more info or call 01384 295535

Service & Repairs:

Taking on the smallest of jobs, such as changing a stretching, engine overhauls, painting and sign writing etc.

Re-Fits and Re-Sprays

Ranging from changing a door, to fitting a bathroom, to full fit out and re-spray.

Craning & Docking:

A monthly service, giving ample time for engine and blacking works to be completed.

Mooring & docking facilities available for DIY blacking and fit out work.

Call Steve on 07767 698495

Ashwood Marina is located on the Staffs & Worcester Canal between Rocky and Greensforge Locks



Ashwood Marina, Kingswinford. DY6 0AQ. Tel: 01384 295535





www.rotaryprinters.co.uk

MITTON STREET STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN DY13 9AA

01299 823839

COPYWRITING • BROCHURES • BANNERS • BRANDING • ADVERTS • LEAFLETS • PADS BUSINESS CARDS · LETTERHEADS · FOLDERS · BUSINESS STARTER PACKS · EMAIL FOOTERS NEWSLETTERS · INVITATIONS · WEBSITES · WEDDING STATIONERY · POSTERS · LOGOS



Follow us on:



Home Cooked, Freshly Prepared Bar Meals With Real Chips.



THE CROSS KEYS - Filance Lane, Penkridge ST19 5HJ Tele: 01785-712826 + 07810080668

Martin Brookes

FOR ALL YOUR MARINE WORK

On the Stourbridge Canal, between Stourton and Wordsley Junctions

Coach Painting - Boat Building - Fitting Out - Compliance Work New Installation - Engine Servicing - Repairs - Welding Hull Blacking - Breakdown Call Out Service

Diesel Tank cleaning and fuel filtering with minimum need for drilling or cutting or emptying tank Mobile or at Wharf Service

Bookings for Wharf Cranage NOW available

All Work Personally Undertaken
Waterways Craft Guild Accredited
Free no obligation quotation
07802 444370 or mb.tramp@btinternet.com

Editorial

The weather is on the up, the clocks have gone forward and animal (including humans) and plant activity is noticeably increasing on our waterways. As it's a late Easter, we can pretty well guarantee that the forthcoming Spring Cruise will be frost and snow free. So as long as the access from the north through the Wolverley landslip is maintained, all is set for an enjoyable weekend. If you haven't yet booked up for the meal, do so soon as there is a restriction on numbers for the meal. At the last viewing the navigable channel cut through the slippage at Wolverley has been maintained and time restrictions are published.

News in this issue includes three items from the Canal and River Trust on, online moorings, London mooring, and short term licence review. Whether it is true or not, you cannot help but consider if the new mooring policy has been influenced by the fact that CRT have recently sold their interest in Marinas, so generating capital at the expense of revenue. (Apart from network access charges)

Despite reassurances to the contrary, the concern is that online moorings will increase to the detriment of cruising boats, particularly as I understand, the CRT Boating Business section will continue to deal with multiple online mooring applications and will no doubt have targets to meet. (as an aside...,... 2009 policy that undertakes to reduce online moored numbers and facilitate offline moorings is still currently published on the CRT Website.)

One justification of the sale of the marinas by CRT is that the 2017 British Marine report stated that 'marinas continue to struggle to retain customers with an ageing market that finds it increasingly difficult to justify the rising costs associated with marina berthing', And on the inland waterways, with licensed boats only growing by +0.1% (or less than 200 boats), and proposed and planned new moorings facilities outstripping demand, competition for berthing among marinas is only going to intensify as operators eat into each others' customer base.'

With the great concern about the amount of plastic waste in our seas leads to the inevitable conclusion that much of the pollution comes from waterways (including canals) that eventually flow into the sea. Of course plastic in waterways is also a hazard in itself before it reaches the sea. So the current Greenpeace push to quantify the problem in this country's rivers is to be welcomed. More inside this issue.

I hear that there has been a good initial response from members renewing their subscriptions this year at Bradmore in March, which is very encouraging. If you haven't renewed yet, think what excellent value it is, and take that as a gentle reminder to renew soon.

Ian Cowdale

£853,800 Lottery Boost for Viaduct

The Severn Valley Railway is celebrating after winning a £853,800 grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. We will use the grant, along with other funds raised, to restore Falling Sands Viaduct in Kidderminster, and to launch an exciting programme of community engagement and exhibitions that will explore the Railway's early history.

News of The National Lottery Heritage Fund grant comes soon after we announced the success of our appeal to raise £397,000 in donations from thousands of individuals, community organisations, charitable trusts and foundations, and businesses. It means the Railway can now go ahead with essential repairs to the 142-yearold viaduct, as Shelagh Paterson of the SVR Charitable Trust explains:

"Our iconic structure has suffered badly over the years, with water seeping deep inside, causing cracks and erosion to the brickwork. Now, thanks to the support of National Lottery players, and our many generous donors, we can get it back into shape. When the work is completed, we'll be able to lift the current speed restriction on our heritage trains, and look forward to at least another century of service from the viaduct. Restoring Falling Sands Viaduct will help safeguard the SVR's future."

As well as ensuring the long-term viability of the viaduct itself, the project will engage a wider audience for the Railway, encouraging an appreciation and understanding of local heritage and the fascinating world of structural engineering, as volunteer Chris Haynes explains:

"I've been involved in a small team researching the history of the line for the

Falling Sands project, and we've uncovered all sorts of interesting information. We discovered that some of the foremost railway engineers of the day were involved in the design of the loop line from Bewdley to Kidderminster, including Falling Sands Viaduct.

"The loop line's construction took so long to complete that many of the key people had died before it opened. We'll be bringing all these stories to life so that our visitors get a real



sense of what life was like for the Victorians who built the line, and for those who used it in the following decades."

Vanessa Harbar, head of The National Lottery Heritage Fund West Midlands said:

"We're delighted to support Severn Valley Railway Charitable Trust to preserve Falling Sands Viaduct and to celebrate its heritage. Thanks to National Lottery players, people in the West Midlands will explore an important part of their local history."

The viaduct stands half a mile from Kidderminster station, and is located close to the recently built Hoobrook Link Road and the Silverwoods residential and business development. Its impressive seven arches allow heritage trains to cross 64 feet above the river Stour and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal conservation area. More than two thirds of our annual 250,000 annual visitors begin their journey in Kidderminster, and the viaduct is an essential link between the town and the rest of the 16-mile line. Repair work will commence early next January, and will be fully completed by the autumn.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded a development grant of £71,800 in 2017 for the Falling Sands project. The latest award takes the total amount of its funding to £925,600.

Membership Renewal 2019

Once again, it's that time of year when I remind you that the society membership is due for renewal on 1st April 2019. Our membership subscription again remains unchanged, as follows:-

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP £13.00

COMBINED MEMBERSHIP £13.50 (e.g. Husband & Wife)

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP £1.00 (up to 18yrs of age) & those in full time education

You will find a renewal form enclosed with this copy of Broadsheet. I look forward seeing you at Bradmore on 9th April, or to receiving your remittance in the post addressed to:

14 White Harte Park, Kinver, South Staffs, DY7 6HN.

Thank you Colin Beard *Membership Secretary*

Navigation Notices

Section of Canal above Wolverley Locks

Notice Details

From Date:1st March 2019 at 14:00 To Date: until further notice Type: Navigation Closure Reason: Vegetation

Description: A landslide has caused trees to fall into the canal and block navigation just above Wolverley Locks. As a result, this section of canal will be closed until we are able to remove the trees. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Notice updates:

14/03/2019 @ 14:35

Our contractors have managed to dredge a narrow route through the slippage that will allow boats to pass through under supervision. Further works to stabilise the embankment will be undertaken by Severn Trent & Worcestershire County Council in the near future.

Although the canal is closed between Wolverley and Debdale Locks. Starting on the 14th of March at 3.00pm the closed section will be opened for boats to pass through the slip on the following times each day, to include weekends – 9.00am to 10.00am and 2.00pm to 3.00pm. The open times will be reviewed weekly. Please note: If any further slips occur the canal maybe temporarily closed again until further investigations have taken place.

13/03/2019 @ 16:31

Our contractors started to excavate this morning having reviewed the condition of the slope the previous day. WCC attended site with the Trust and provided us with ongoing advice whilst we carefully removed material form the canal.

Our joint observations confirmed that we could continue to cautiously remove material and were able to create a small channel by late morning and start to supervise the passage boats. A total of 80T of material was removed from the canal, which given the nature of the work, is a great achievement.

This afternoon five boats had been moved past the slip. Two unoccupied boats



are awaiting passage with our supervision as soon as the owners are contacted. The canal remains closed whilst we assess the stability of the slope following our operations. We remain concerned about the unsupported material at the top of the slope which includes the road itself. Progress to fully reinstate the cutting and support to the road will be investigated by WCC.

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, Gailey Canoe Club

Notice Details

From Date: 14th April 2019 at 11:00 To Date: 14th April 2019 at

15:30 inclusive Type: Event Description:

A canoe and kayak flat water-marathon, organised by Gailey Canoe Club, planned for Sunday 14 April on the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal. The event will start at Gravelly Way Bridge 78 and finish at 32 Gailey Lock. Around 120 people are expected to be involved and they will be on the water between 11am and 3.30pm. The starts will be staggered to reduce inconvenience to other users.

Gloucester Lock

Notice Details

From Date:

14th January 2019 at 15:00 **To Date:** until further notice

Type: Navigation Closure Reason: Repair

Notice updates: 26/03/2019 @ 11:50

Update - 26/03/2019 - Poor working conditions in the River (zero visibility) have led to problems obtaining accurate survey dimensions and unfortunately delayed design & installation of the dam. However, fabrication of the stop-plank channels is in hand and we now expect divers to commence installation on 3^{rd} April.

Although we have suffered a delay instigating manufacture, lead time has proved shorter than expected and we have reviewed our working patterns to limit impact on the programme. Once the water is out, we will be able to confirm timescale to completion, based on repairs required

We appreciate that this is a frustrating time for people needing to use the lock and very much appreciate everyone's patience while we continue to complete the repairs.

Notices

Spring Cruise

For anyone wishing to attend the evening meal either by boat or road please complete the form below

Spring Cruise Meal Easter Sunday 21st April 2019 5.00 p.m. at The Lock Inn, Wolverley

Select your choices from the menu Let Mary or Derek know by phoning 01746 718571 OR post the form to Clapwicket, Stottesdon, Nr Kidderminster, DY14 8LZ OR hand in your form at Bradmore.

Telephone:

Cost - £15 for two courses with coffee or tea.

Payment before the event please.

Cheque's payable to - Staffs and Worcs Canal Society

Main Course	Name/s & Choices	Dessert	Name/s & Choices	
Beef		Fruit Crumble with Custard		
Pork		Black Forest Meringue Tower		
Chicken		Chocolate Torte with Blackberry Sauce		
Spinach Feta Tart				
Name:				

Total Cost: £

Visit Your local Chandlery

For a wide range of marine, caravan & leisure equipment.



Parkgate Lock, Teddesley Road Penkridge, Staffs, ST19 5RH T 01785 712437









Open 6 days a week Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.30pm



- Expert technical advice
- Friendly welcome, ample car parking & easy mooring
- Top brand names all under one roof
- Monthly special offers throughout the store
- Save 15% with our Bonus Club Card. (conditions apply)

5% Discount

Available for all **Members**



* only available on production of a valid Staffs & Worcestershire Canal Society membership card (no further discounts apply)

A Warm Welcome Awaits You At Our Stores...

London Road, Braunston, Northants, NN11 7HB. Parkgate Lock, Teddesley Road, Penkridge, Staffs, ST19 5RH. The Wharf, Preston Brook, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 4BA. Mercia Marina, Findern Lane, Willington, Derbyshire, DE65 6DW.





T 01788 891401 T 01785 712437 T 01928 751800 T 01283 701445

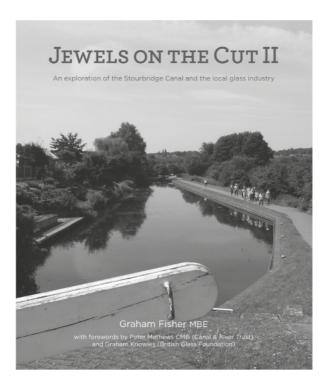
Latest addition to the 'Jewels' Trilogy

JEWELS ON THE CUT II

An exploration of the Stourbridge Canal and the local glass industry

A revised edition incorporating updates, developments and other matters arising since the original *Jewels on the Cut*.

Graham Fisher MBE



UK Price £15.00 * + £2.50 p&p

* Special price for readers of Broadsheet £12.50 + £2.50 p&p



What the reviewers say about Jeweis on the CutII

- * Mr Fisher has set the benchmark on examining both the canal and its attendant industries for some considerable time to come.
- * Erudite yet informative; a real gem.
- * Graham brings the whole tale bang up to date in his inimitable, thoroughly un-put-downable way.



About the author

* * 12.50 Prop Graham Fisher MBE is a former Chairman of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Society and has served on the West Midlands Waterways Partnership of the Canal & River Trust. He is also a Trustee of both the British Glass Foundation and the Chance Glass Works Heritage Trust and is thus ideally placed to comment on the canal and its industries, notably the world-renowned Stourbridge Glass.

About the 'Jewels' Trilogy

Jewels on the Cut II is part of the 'Jewels' Trilogy that offers a detailed analysis of the local waterways and the industries they served.

The other two books in the series are:

- The 2012 Portland Vase: Recreation of a Masterpiece
- Whiskers on Kittens (an appreciation of Stourbridge glass) which both retail at £12.50 + £2.00 p&p but are available as a SPECIAL OFFER to readers of Broadsheet at £10.00 + £2.00 p&p each.

Or as an EXTRA SPECIAL OFFER the entire 'Jewels' Trilogy can be purchased for £30.00 + £5.00 p&p.

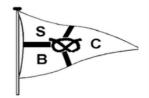
Jewels on the Cut II @ £12.50 + £2.50 p&p
Whiskers on Kittens @ £10.00 + £2.00 p&p
The 2012 Portland Vase Project @ £10.00 + £2.00 p&p
The 'Jewels' Trilogy @ £30.00 + £5.00 p&p
Name
Address
Post Code

ORDER FORM

Please send this order form with cheque payable to Sparrow Publishing to: Sparrow Publishing, Drovers Barn, Whitney-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR3 6EU

STAFFORD BOAT CLUB





DO YOU NEED TO PAINT YOUR BOAT OUT OF THE WATER OR IN A HEATED WET DOCK?

WANT TO HIRE A ROOM FOR A SEMINAR WITH MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR OR TO CELEBRATE THAT SPECIAL OCCASION?

NEED COAL, DIESEL BUG TREATMENT, LOO BLUE, SACRIFICIAL ANNODES, RED DIESEL, PUMP OUT, PLASTIC CARD PRINTING, GARMENT PRINTING, BANNER MAKING AND MUCH MUCH MORE?

Why not give us a ring or visit our website for more information and prices.

www.staffordboatclub.co.uk

Telephone 01785 660725

Fax 01785 662222

Stafford Boat Club, Maplewood, Wildwood, Stafford. ST17 4SG

Act now, as carbon monoxide alarms become mandatory in April

RYA News March 2019

From 1 April 2019 at least one carbon monoxide (CO) alarm becomes a mandatory requirement on nearly all private and non-private boats in scope of the Boat Safety Scheme (BSS) requirements. BSS Certifications will not be issued to boats without alarms. The new BSS requirements apply to boats with accommodation spaces i.e. areas within a boat surrounded by permanent boat structure and where carbon monoxide gas may accumulate.

Although the need for CO alarms is being introduced to help protect boat owners from sources of the toxic gas from neighbouring boats, the alarms are also expected to prevent death or injury to crew members from their own boat engines or appliances.

Be alarmed!

There are four new check items in the BSS examination:

- The provision of alarms in suitable numbers this check ensures everyone on board can hear the alarm if it activates
- An advice check for private boats, promoting a CO alarm in the same space as a solid fuel stove – stoves can present a specific risk if flue gases enter the cabin
- The requirement for CO alarms to be placed in open view, be of a certified quality and have a test function button
- The requirement for CO alarms to be in good and working condition, showing no signs of damage, being within any visible expiry dates and passing the function test using the test button

The BSS has published a new handout as an essential guide to all the new requirements and background information. It covers what is required and how the checks will be carried out by BSS examiners and how the alarms can keep crew members safe, including:

- CO alarm makers guidance about where to place a CO alarm to achieve best protection
- What type of CO alarm to buy
- What to do if a CO alarm goes off
- What to do if carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected

Copies of the essential guide will be distributed by BSS Examiners. It is also available for marinas and boat clubs to distribute. It can also be viewed or downloaded from www.boatsafetyscheme.org.

#GetWiseGetAlarmedGetOut

Stuart Carruthers, RYA Cruising Manager, says: "The message is simple: carbon monoxide kills and an alarm could save your life. But the first line of defence is to know and understand the dangers and sources of carbon monoxide. It's both colourless and odourless, hence the silent killer tag, and can kill quickly if inhaled in high concentrations.

"At lower levels of CO as it begins to take effect, the symptoms of poisoning are similar to flu or food poisoning, and include headaches, nausea and dizziness."

CO detectors are commonplace in homes, but less so on boats despite them being the perfect place for the poisonous gas to build up. The RYA recommends fitting an alarm that is certified to the British Standard as suitable for use when camping and/or in recreational vehicles such as boats and caravans, which is known as BS EN50291-2:2010.

Take action

Stuart adds: "CO detectors alarm at a low concentration levels to give a person time to react and regrettably it appears that these are often mistaken as false alarms rather than early warning and are switched off.

"If the alarm sounds, it's vital to take action to shut off sources of CO (engines, generators, open flame appliances) if safe to do so, get clear of fumes into the fresh air and seek medical attention immediately. By having CO alarms on board as a back-up, you should have a happy and incident-free time afloat.

"Don't wait until your boat's next BSS examination to get a CO alarm. Read the handout now and protect yourself and your family from carbon monoxide poisoning today."

The RYA is committed to increasing public understanding of the risks of CO

Changes to short-term boat licences

CRT News - 27 March 2019

FOLLOWING the national licensing consultation last year, the Canal & River Trust is announcing changes to the short-term licences the charity offers to visiting boaters.

Nearly eight out of ten of those who shared their views on short-term licences felt it was fair to withdraw one-day licences but retain one week, one month, and thirty-day flexible 'explorer' licences, and price these proportionately to reflect the greater administrative costs.

The Trust will continue to offer short term licences for visitors and those who have boats off the water and will remove the daily licence. Provision will be made for discounts for legitimate cruising clubs who host events that require one day licences. The revised prices are available via the Trust's <u>Useful downloads</u>, <u>application forms and licence fees webpage</u>.

Jon Horsfall, head of customer services, at Canal & River Trust, said: "Short-term licences are valuable to visiting boaters and those who keep their boats out of the water. We want to continue to offer this service so every boater has the chance to discover our wonderful waterways. This needs to be balanced with the cost savings we need to find as a charity, to ensure our resources are best spent looking after the canals and rivers in our care.

"We've listened to the boaters who responded to our national licensing consultation and we believe that our new short-term licence structure offers both flexibility and good value for those who choose to explore the 2,000 miles of waterway we look after."

Price rise for London moorings

Boating Business 18 March 2019

More than 90% of Waterside Moorings customers in central London will see the cost of mooring their boat rise following a review of prices. Waterside Moorings manages the Canal & River Trusts' permanent moorings in England and Wales and conducted a review last year to bring prices into line with market rates.

Sixteen per cent customers will see prices increase between inflation and 1% above inflation. Prices for 8% of customers in London will remain the same and receive no increase. The remainder of customers will see prices rise more significantly, but the trust will cap annual increases to a maximum of 10% for a transition period of up to five years.

"We want our customers to stay with us rather than go elsewhere, so I can assure them that any price change will still ensure that our moorings are in line with prices charged for comparable moorings elsewhere in London," said Mark Evans, head of Waterside Moorings.

Rises capped

"I understand and appreciate that making the necessary financial adjustments to afford the new mooring fee may be tough for some of our long-standing mooring customers. We are therefore not going to impose the full increase straight away, but rather, phase the increase over the next five years."

The price review was conducted in consultation with customers and mooring and boaters' groups and was ratified by an independent third party who found the process fair and reasonable. Waterside Moorings manages 3,600 moorings across England and Wales, 300 of which are in the capital. All are permanent.

Online Mooring Policy Updated

CRT Boater's Update - 22 March 2019

The popularity of boating remains as strong as ever and, in turn, so does the need to fairly share space out on the cut. With this in mind, and following a consultation at the end of 2017 and further review and discussion since, we've now updated our Online Mooring Policy.

There are two key areas of change. We will be ending the automatic online reduction policy, whereby we'd previously removed one long-term online mooring for the creation of every ten off-line marina moorings.

Over the past ten years nearly 630 online permanent moorings have been removed as thousands of new offline moorings have been created. The new policy does not support the creation of lots of new linear moorings, but in certain circumstances they may be appropriate if they meet strict criteria. Moorings that have been removed to date will not be reinstated, and this will not affect existing marinas or those currently in development where online mooring reduction has already been agreed.

Secondly, single 'end of garden' mooring applications will now be considered against privately-owned land, not just that which has a residential dwelling on it. Permission will only be granted to the landowner and sub-letting the mooring will not be permitted.

Jon Horsfall, head of customer service support, said: "We have updated our Online Mooring Policy to reflect the current waterway environment, and to ensure we have a clear and robust policy to help us manage the waterways for the benefit of boaters. It's more important than ever that towpath moorings are shared fairly, especially in busy areas, and that we make the best possible use of space."

Roundhouse restoration work starts

Towpath Talk - March 15, 2019

Work has begun on the restoration of the Roundhouse in Birmingham, the jewel in the crown of Birmingham's waterways. The work will ensure the future of this magnificent, one-of-a-kind building is secure, inspiring a new generation to explore the waterways and delve into the history of Birmingham and its canals. Built-in 1874 the Grade II* listed Roundhouse is tucked next to the Birmingham Mainline Canal very close to the centre of the City and was originally used as stables and stores for the Birmingham Corporation. Designed by local architect W.H. Ward the horseshoe shaped building is a unique and beautiful Birmingham landmark.

The building is being brought to life by a partnership of the Canal & River Trust and National Trust, made possible through a £2.5m National Lottery Heritage Fund grant and funding of £196,000 from Historic England. Due to reopen in Spring 2020 the Roundhouse will be an exciting space for the local community and a focal point from which to explore Birmingham's canals by foot, bike or boat.

The restoration works will include strengthening and restoring the roof, repairing and re-laying the cobbled courtyard and installing new 'feature' windows giving views over the canal.

When finished the Roundhouse along with the Distillery – Birmingham's newest Gin distillery which is located next door – will be a fantastic



place for local people and visitors from further afield. It will create jobs and volunteering opportunities as well as promoting skills and encouraging healthy lifestyles by offering people of all ages and abilities fun and active ways to enjoy the city.

Stuart Mills, from Canal & River Trust said: "The Roundhouse is a really beautiful and unusual building right in the heart of the city centre and we are looking forward to the day we can welcome visitors and help them to explore its history as well as the tranquil canals in Birmingham.

"We've got a lot of work to do in the next few months, but this is a really exciting chapter for the Roundhouse. I hope local people enjoy seeing the building transform and come and visit us when we're back open."

Lucy Reid, from the National Trust: said: "Once a place that was alive with the sounds of the lamplighters, labourers and horses from the City's Public Works department, it's great that the Roundhouse will soon once again be alive with the sound of people.

"We'd like to thank the individuals, partners, supporters and funders who've worked with us so far, and who have played such a major part in helping us to shape our plans — all of which are aimed at bringing a new purpose to this iconic Birmingham building, for the people of Birmingham."

Vanessa Harbar, Head of the National Lottery Heritage Fund West Midlands, said: "We're delighted to see restoration works get underway at Birmingham's iconic-but-underused Roundhouse. This is a major industrial building at the heart of the city's canal network and we look forward to seeing it transformed into a city base for exploring Birmingham's revitalised canals – all thanks to funding made possible by National Lottery players."

Louise Brennan, Historic England's Regional Director for the Midlands said: "The Roundhouse is a unique and evocative building, and central to the story of Birmingham's role in the Industrial Revolution. The city has more miles of canal than Venice, and the Roundhouse tells the story of how these waterways changed

the way we work and live.

"Historic England is delighted to be supporting a project that will see this important historic building found a new and exciting use, and will ensure the building continues to play its part at the centre of Birmingham's canal network."

Various events will be held during the works phase to allow local people and school children the chance to see the progress being made and find out more about the building. To find out more about the Roundhouse and to see when these events are happening visit www.roundhousebirmingham.org.uk.

Rivers of Plastic

UK river wildlife habitats invaded by plastic pollution

Greenpeace: 18th March 2019

Greenpeace is carrying out the most thorough survey of plastic in UK rivers to date – testing river water in 13 rivers nationwide and analysing the plastics found with state of the art technology;

Campaigners, scientists and 70,000 members of the public are urging the government to set and enforce reduction targets for single-use plastics

The world has seen the impacts of plastic pollution on our oceans – turtles eating

plastic, seabirds feeding plastic to chicks. Now a new collection of photographs published today by Greenpeace UK shows that plastic pollution is also invading the habitats of Britain's most iconic river wildlife.

The pictures – some of them new, some rarely-seen or previously unpublished – show otters swimming through plastic bottles, voles eating plastic, and swans, moorhens and coots with plastic in their nests.

The images are released as Greenpeace is carrying out the most thorough survey of plastic in UK rivers to date. Campaigners are gathering water samples from 13 rivers across the UK and scientists will be



analysing the plastics found using state of the art infrared technology at the University of Exeter.

This project has been made possible thanks to support received from the players of People's Postcode Lottery.

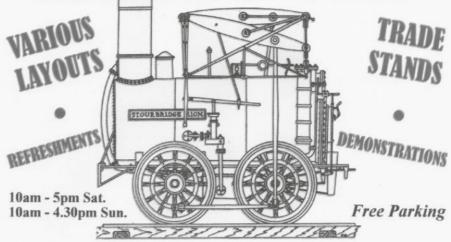
Last year scientists revealed shocking levels of plastic pollution in the River Tame in Manchester – up to half a million plastic particles per square metre. (*cubic metre? – Ed*). The Thames alone carries 18 tonnes of plastic pollution into the ocean every single year.

Studies show that unless we change course, plastic production is set to double in the next 20 years and quadruple by 2050, and by 2050 there could be 12 billion metric tonnes of plastic waste in the natural environment or landfills.



Stourbridge Railway Society

MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION



BONDED WAREHOUSE Canal Street, Stourbridge DY8 4LU

SAT/SUN. 18th/19th MAY 2019

ADULTS: £3.50

CHILD/OAP: £2

FAMILY (2+2): £10

The Bonded Warehouse is a Grade II Listed Building, therefore wheelchair access is restricted to the Basement exhibition area only.

The Society reserves the right to refuse admission.

Microplastics – very tiny plastic particles that come from degraded plastics and synthetic clothing – can be toxic to wildlife and fragile ecosystems and represent a vast proportion of the plastics that flow directly from our rivers out into the sea.

Greenpeace is calling on the UK government to set new legally-binding targets in the forthcoming Environment Bill to radically reduce single-use plastic. Greenpeace is also calling for an independent environmental watchdog



to ensure that these and other vital targets are met.

Greenpeace campaigners and scientists are currently carrying out water sampling and sediment testing for plastics in 13 rivers in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England.

Scotland – Clyde: Wales – Conwy, Wye: Northern Ireland – Lagan: England – Aire, Derwent, Exe, Great Ouse, Mersey, Severn, Thames, Trent, Wear, Wye. A Greenpeace petition calling on the UK government to set reduction targets for single-use plastics and create an independent watchdog to enforce them, has been signed by more than 70,000 people.

The Petition is online here or search on: Secure Greenpeace Plastic Rivers



PHIL JONES



HATHERTON MARINA, HATHERTON JUNCTION, STAFFS & WORCS

DRY DOCK, CRANEAGE, GRIT BLASTING, PRESSURE WASHING

HULL BLACKING, STERNGEAR, ANODES, ETC.

STEELWORK ALTERATIONS, LENGTHENING, OVERPLATING.

NARROWBOAT BROKERAGE & SALES

BOAT SAFETY EXAMINATIONS & REMEDIAL WORK

VINTAGE AND MODERN ENGINE SALES, REPAIR AND INSTALLATION

Tel/Fax: (01785) 715988 Mobile: 07831 153028

The BONDED WAREHOUSE



Canal Street
Stourbridge DY8 4LU
Rooms For Hire To
Suit All Occasions
Visitors Welcome

Visitors Welcome Tele 01384 395216

Email: Stourbridge-trust@btconnect.com

Stourbridge Navigation Trust

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal Society MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Please return to Mr Colin Beard, Membership Secretary 14 White Harte Park Kinver Staffs DY7 6HN

Please tick appropriate option



YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION (1st April-31st March)

	Single Membership			£13.00		
	Combined (eg husband & Wif	£13.50				
	Junior (up to 18 years of age) a	£1.00				
•	 New members joining 1st April to 31st August pay the full rate New members joining between 1st September & 31st January pay half the above fees. New members joining between 1st February & 31st March pay the full rate for up to 14. months membership. 					
Full Nan	ne					
Address						
Post Coo	de Te	lephone				
Email						
☐ I wi	sh to receive Broadsheet by	post				
☐ I wish to receive Broadsheet electronically						
GIF	T AID DECLARATION					
	a UK tax payer. I would like the	,	membership st	ubscriptions and donations		
	Gift Aid Donations until I notify	•	1	1.1		
	must pay an amount of income tax		*	•		
•	ons & donations. Remember to not	, ,	pay tax or wish	to cancel this declaration		
WAIEK	WAYS INTERESTS. Please Indi		_			
	Angling Canoeing			ease specify)		
	Boating Industria	l Archaeology	Walking			
Boat Name	e		Volunteer	Work		

Diary DatesBradmore Meetings

A series of talks and presentations, usually waterways orientated but with occasional eclectic contributions on a variety of other subjects - open to the public free of charge.

Meetings held at the Bradmore Community Centre, Birches Barn Road, Wolverhampton starting at 7:45pm,

Monday 8th April

Edwin Fasham –"Change of Levels"

Monday 15th May

TBC

Monday 11th June

Annual General Meeting followed by Chris Dyche "All Our Yesterdays"

<u>Events</u> Sunday 21st April

Spring Cruise to Wolverley

Sat 25th & Sun 26th May

Summer Gathering at Bratch

Electronic Broadsheet

We are now making all future copies of Broadsheet and loose inserts available electronically. This would be by "opting-in" for those members who choose to receive Broadsheet electronically.

There is no intention of discontinuing the sending out of "hard copies" of Broadsheet to other members.

Please contact Steve Gray with your name and e-mail address if you wish to "opt-in" to receive Broadsheet electronically in future.

Email wharfinger@blueyonder.co.uk

Note:- Your email address will only be used by SWCS and will not be passed on to any third party.

