

.SURREY AND HAMPSHIRE CANAL SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 3

May 1967

FILM SHOW

A film show has been arranged for Saturday, May 20 at Brookwood Memorial Hall at 8 pm. The main film will be "Wey Barges" filmed by Mr. A. Harmsworth. It deals with the grain traffic between London Docks and Cox's Lock. We are trying to arrange a supporting film. There will be no charge for admission, but a collection will be made. There will also be a display of photographs showing activities over Easter.

RIVER WEY

We have arranged with the National Trust to man Bower's Lock during summer weekends. This can be an enjoyable day out, the work is not too strenuous and it is helping: a good cause.- Anyone who can spend a day is requested to let the Secretary know as soon as possible so that a rota can be made out.

BASINGSTOKE CANAL

An article in the local press mentioned that Surrey County Council were meeting the owners on March 28 to discuss possible purchase. Despite the weather, the boat trip over Easter was very successful. Crookham Swing Bridge was quite an obstacle - the counter balance weights consisted to kerb stones which had to be piled on the bridge. However, these were insufficient so human ballast had to be added. The boats started from Ash Lock and managed to get to North Warnborough Swing Bridge. Some difficulty was experienced at Broad Oak due to silting and heavy weed.

PONDTAIL BRIDGE

The trip proved that even small cruisers will have grave difficulty in going under the new bridge. It would appear that preparatory work has started, but at the moment we do not know if the various protests have prompted the county to reconsider. It would appear that many members have written to Hampshire County Council as several have received duplicated replies. If you have not yet written, please do so.

SALISBURY AND SOUTHAMPTON CANAL

Southampton City Council have published a 6s. booklet on this forgotten waterway. This has several photographs of what remains nowadays, and also gives the location of locks and earth works which remain. Copies can be obtained from Southampton Record Office.

BRITISH WATERWAYS

To those intending to use the British Waterways Board system, it is heartening to note that the practice of padlocking lock gates is to be discontinued, with the exception of those giving access to the Severn.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

We had been asked by BBC television to organise another trip down the Basingstoke Canal passing under Pondtail Bridge, with the object of filming the trip and showing it on their "Town and Around" programme. This was due to take place during the coming weekend, April 22, 23. This trip has now had to be postponed.

But we are hoping to organise another cruise - this time on the Woking section of the canal. The date for this is June 3 and 4. If you would like to join in, please let the Secretary know.

NOTE

The Secretary will be away on holiday between April 29 and May 13.

Anyone interested in lock keeping during May is asked to contact the secretary before April 29.

Secretary: Mr Jim Woolgar, 56 Connaught Crescent, Brookwood, Surrey.

[This is the third issue of what eventually became the bi-monthly journal of the canal Society. It appeared on two 'fullscap' typed duplicated sheets, with no 'masthead']. It is an approx representation of those sheets.