



The Basingstoke
Canal Society

Basingstoke Canal Bulletin

No. 27 NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2015

Christmas Thank You From The BCA



As a Thank You to the many volunteers who have worked on the Canal this year, the BCA put on a buffet lunch at the Canal Centre recently. The 50 or so attendees were plied with plenty of food, regaled with a BCA special version of the “12 Days of Christmas” and had a go at a (tricky) Canal quiz. The occasion was used to mark the departure of ranger Chris Healey to pastures new in the early New Year. He has been primarily responsible for leading the Tuesday work parties which have done a lot of good work all over the Canal. Good luck to Chris, and thanks to Canal Manager Fiona for hosting the event.

Learn about the Canal by clicking these links

- [Join the Society](#)
- [Become Involved](#)
- [Sign up to receive future bulletins \(if this one was forwarded/downloaded\):](#) [Members](#) [Non-members](#)
- [Read previous Basingstoke Canal Bulletins](#)
- [Read the Basingstoke Canal News \(BCN\)](#)
- [John Pinkerton cruising on the Basingstoke Canal](#)
- [The Basingstoke Canal Picture Gallery](#)
- [The History and Restoration of the Basingstoke Basingstoke Canal Wiki Page](#)
- [Basingstoke Canal Authority \(BCA\) Website](#)
- [Joint Management Committee \(JMC\) Papers](#)
- [Map of the Basingstoke Canal](#)
- [John Pinkerton on Facebook](#)
- [BCA Visitor Centre on Facebook](#)
- [See what people are saying on Twitter](#)



Click on the [website links](#) in the Bulletin articles to read more

2016 John Pinkerton Trips Announced, And On-line Booking Now Available

The schedule of trips aboard the *John Pinkerton* for next season has now been announced. Details can be found on the [Public and Special Trips](#) and [Charter Cruises web pages](#), and a printed [brochure](#) will be available shortly. The popular special (aka themed) trips this year are to be repeated in 2016. For the first time, it will be possible to [book Public and Special trips on-line](#). Customers will be able to select and pay for trips with a just few clicks of a mouse. Click on the button below (you can see it also on the website) to see the system in action.

[BOOK YOUR TRIP >](#)



[Click to view the new JP promotional video](#)

(Note: Charter trips will continue to be booked directly with our Booking Team on 01256-765889 (10am-8pm).

Short of Christmas Present Ideas? Give a John Pinkerton Cruise Voucher

If you are struggling to find those last few Christmas presents, then here is an idea: give them a [gift voucher](#) for a [John Pinkerton Public or Special trip](#) of their choosing during next season. Vouchers to the value of between £10 and £100 can be purchased on-line by simply filling in a [form](#) and making a card payment. You can then email or give them to your intended recipient(s), who can redeem them as part or full payment against any [Public or Special cruise](#) that can be booked through the on-line system (or by calling our booking team).

Sorry that this has been announced so late, but believe me we have been working on this system for months. However it takes only a few seconds to purchase and email these vouchers! Click below.

[Buy A Cruise Gift Voucher](#)

Woking Canal Festival 2016 and Society's 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Work has now started in earnest to prepare for the Society's 50th Anniversary celebratory event at Woking (and not forgetting it will be 25 years since the Canal was re-opened). This will be a major canal rally that will take place a few hundred yards from Woking town centre over the **weekend of 6/7 August 2016**. We will be joined by the [Historic Narrow Boat Club](#), who are also celebrating their 50th, and they will be bringing as many as 50 of their own boats to the Basingstoke for the event, in addition to those of Society supporters. For more details, see the recent [Basingstoke Canal News](#), and the [last Bulletin](#).

A substantial team of volunteers is steadily being assembled to help, with organising events on the field, hiring equipment, identifying stallholders, and (not least) to consider how the Society will specially celebrate the half-century of volunteering that restored the previously seriously derelict Basingstoke Canal to the wonderful amenity it is today. We would like this to be an as inclusive event as possible, and intend to invite as many present and past volunteers as we can contact.

More Help Needed

Needless to say, more help is needed. If you would like to contribute in *any way*, big or small, to this major event, please get in contact with [Dick King](#) by [email](#) or on 01730 264178.

If you cannot help but have any suggestions or thoughts as to how we should most appropriately commemorate the 50th Anniversary, then please do get in touch with Dick.

The Woking Canal Festival enquiries and help line is 01730 264178, and the email address is [here](#).

Society Members' Trips on the John Pinkerton

If you have contemplated crewing on the [John Pinkerton trip boat](#) and would like an introduction to it, or you just fancy a trip out one evening, then a number of trips for Society members will be run during 2016, as follows: **Monday evenings departing 7.30pm from Colt Hill Wharf, Odiham** on the following dates: **11 April, 16 May, 13 June, 4 July, 1 August, 5 September and 3 October**. These are also a good opportunity for those who have just joined the Society to meet other members and to see what the Society is about.

It helps us to know who will be attending, so please call our booking team on 01256-765889 (10am-8pm) to indicate your interest.

Forthcoming Events

[2015/16 Chobham Illustrated Talks Season](#)

The current season of talks held at [The Parish Pavilion in Chobham](#) will continue with the following:

Wednesday 20th. January 2016 at 8pm - Nick Pollard - 'The History of Heathrow Airport'

Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 8pm - Nick Grundy - 'Barging on North East Waterways'

Wednesday 16th. March 2016 at 8pm - Ian McKechnie - 'Coals to Croxley (and beyond)'

For more details of these talks, and if you have any suggestions for talks in future, see the [Talks page](#).

Editors Comments...

I would appreciate contributions from readers, so please send to me, the [bulletin editor](#), any short articles about the Canal you may have, with accompanying photos if possible.

May we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Martin Leech

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The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Society.

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