



Basingstoke Canal Bulletin

No. 29 MAY – JULY 2016

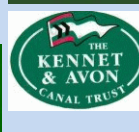
New Trip Boat Kitty Gets JP Colours



The Society's recently acquired trip boat, reported on in the [last Bulletin](#) and named *nb Kitty*, is being hastily prepared for its public showing at the [Woking Canal Festival](#). Here, David Foster is applying the first top coat. It will have the same colour scheme as the *John Pinkerton II*.

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

Countdown To Woking Canal Festival

With much still to do, the [Woking Canal Festival](#) will soon be upon us. It takes place on **August 6th and 7th 2016**, at [Brookhouse Common](#) in Woking. It looks set to be a spectacular affair and celebrates two significant anniversaries. Firstly, it commemorates the 25th year since the Canal was re-opened, following many years of restoration effort, mainly by Society volunteers. This [set of photos showing how the Canal once looked in Woking](#) illustrates what they were up against. This year is also the 50th Anniversary of The Basingstoke Canal Society, which was [founded in 1966 by a collection of enthusiasts](#) who were offended by the parlous state of the Canal and decided to do something about it.



This year is also the 50th Anniversary of The Basingstoke Canal Society, which was [founded in 1966 by a collection of enthusiasts](#) who were offended by the parlous state of the Canal and decided to do something about it.

We are being joined at the Festival by members of the [Historic Narrow Boat Club](#), who also are celebrating their 50th. Their historic ex-working boats will shortly be arriving on the Canal. Fittingly, about 50 in all (including some local boats) are eventually expected to tie up along the towpath between Chobham Road Bridge, alongside the Festival site, and towards Monument Bridge. Both Festival days will commence with procession of the historic boats, which will proceed from the Festival site upstream to Bridge Barn from around 10am. With so many boats taking part, it is likely to be chaotic, but it will look good. A [full programme of public events will take place on-site](#), followed each evening by member-only events, including "birthday parties" for each organisation (see overleaf).

Much Festival Activity Going On In The Background



As can be imagined, a huge amount of planning, organisation and sheer hard work is necessary in advance of an event like a Canal Festival. This has been undertaken by an organising committee that includes members from both the Society and the Historic Narrow Boat Club.

Thankfully, a large force of volunteers have stepped forward and will be helping on the weekend with everything from setting up, stewarding, site control, the information stand, parking for officials and visitors, crewing the water bus, clearing up and tear-down. Inevitably though, not all slots are filled all of the time, so more help is needed:

We have a particular need for additional stewards to cover the main entrances to the site and private car-parks over 2 hour shifts at various times during the weekend. You will be providing directions to people to and around the site. You will be fully briefed and equipped beforehand, and you will be provided with a free Festival T-shirt if you confirm your interest **by Friday of this week (22nd July)** to [Dick King](#) by [email](#) or on 01730 264178.

Thank you.

Society Members “Birthday Party” – RSVP Please

A Society members-only birthday event will take place on the Festival site on **Saturday August 6th from 5.30pm**. This will be to celebrate the 50 years that the Society has been in existence and its achievements over that time. It will be opened by a welcome from our Presidents Tim and Liz Dodwell, followed by short addresses from Roger Cansdale and Robin Higgs about the canal history and restoration. Then a birthday cake will be cut and distributed. This is an ideal opportunity open to all Society members, old and young(er), to get together, socialise and reminisce. The event will finish at about 7pm.



There will be no tickets nor need to book. However, to help with the organising, we need to know roughly how many will be attending. Please let [Dick King](#) know as soon as possible by [email](#) or on **01730 264178 if you intend to be there.**

All attendees will receive a free copy of the specially-written celebration brochure.

As previously indicated, this is a *private, members-only event*. Our membership secretary will be on the door to check names.

Click here to join The Basingstoke Canal Society