

DOUBLE NINE
THE
POCKLINGTON CANAL
AMENITY SOCIETY



MAGAZINE

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No. 58

THE POCKLINGTON CANAL AMENITY SOCIETY



Registered Charity
500637

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Note: Opinions expressed in this magazine are not
necessarily those of the Society unless so stated.

EDITORIAL

THE WIND OF CHANGE AND THE NEED FOR FUNDS

For a long time now the Society has been stressing the desirability of restoring Top Lock so as to complete the Canal Head area and provide a view of a working lock, even if no craft could reach it from below. We pointed out the potential of the site, beside the main route from the Humber ports to York and beyond. We quoted the number of visitors from the Borough who come to enjoy the canal at weekends in the summer. In general officialdom remained polite but unimpressed.

There have been many changes of organisation within British Waterways recently. We are delighted to find the new managers and their staff appear really keen to see progress and an end to dereliction. They want to get things moving. This is excellent but there is a snag! There is no sudden supply of extra cash and we suspect that the Society is going to have to find even more in the way of funding than in the past. We shall be looking to you our members, to the wider public who will benefit and no doubt to even larger sources of finance. In the meantime please do your best to support our forthcoming market stalls in Pocklington and Bridlington later this month. Details appear further on for these and for other Stall outings.



Pocklington Post

John Wootton preparing
for Open Day at Canal Head

AGM

REPORT ON THE SOCIETY'S AGM 23 APRIL 1989

Following a very agreeable Lunch at the Wellington Oak at Canal Head thirty-four members attended the Annual General Meeting. In the absence of a Chairman the Treasurer, D.G.Tomlinson, took the chair and presented a committee report on the past year. Councillor I.J. Loney proposed a special vote of thanks to the various retiring members of the committee, noting their many years of hard and devoted work for the Society.

Finances — The Treasurer and the Auditor reported a satisfactory financial situation. The meeting agreed to raise the subscription for Life Membership from £25 to £30.

Elections — The new Chairman of the Society is our Work Party Organiser, Paul Waddington. John Gatenby is the new Vice-Chairman. Sheila Nix and David Tomlinson remain as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Simon Stallard from Holme-on-Spalding-Moor has taken over from Raymond O'Kelly as Membership Secretary.

The other committee members are A.J.Anderson, G.D.Atkinson, C.R.Huitson, G.Parkes and J.Wootton.

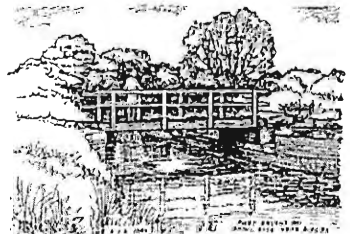
Stall and Raffle — The Stall took £40. The Raffle made £32. Catherine Lount, Eric's young grand-daughter, raised £6.85 persuading us to guess Eli the Elephant's birthday date.

OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Simon Stallard has taken over from Raymond O'Kelly. His address is on the inside front cover and he will be pleased to hear from you if you have not yet paid up for 1989! Many of you add generous donations when you pay and for these the Society is also most grateful.

HAS ANYONE SEEN OUR CHAINSAW?

The Society chainsaw has not been seen for some time. If anyone knows anything of its whereabouts we would be most grateful for information. Please contact one of the committee.



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

PREDECESSORS THANKED - NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

My first duty after becoming Chairman is to thank my predecessors and all who have contributed to the success of the Society during the past twenty years. Although progress may have seemed slow at times the Society can be proud of the great amount that has been achieved.

I would like to extend a special welcome to our new members. A large number of people have joined in the last few months and many of them are playing a very active role in our activities. It is also encouraging to see younger people showing an interest and this should ensure that the Society thrives into the next century.

RESTORATION

Restoration of the canal is one of our principal aims and plenty is being done at the moment. The chamber of Thornton Lock is virtually complete and the Society is contributing at least £4000 possibly more, towards the cost of the new gates. We expect these to be installed later this year. When this is done the navigable length of the canal will be extended by about a mile.

Employment Training to Continue

Our own working parties have done good work at Top Lock and have completed the rebuilding and repair of the four wing walls and part of the bywash, including replacement of some large coping stones. The Employment Training teams are to continue working on the canal. This is good news as it was originally thought they would finish once Thornton Lock was completed. So we have decided to hand over the remainder of the work at Top Lock to them. This will allow the most visited lock on the canal to be completed more quickly than it could be by volunteer weekend working.

Society to Tackle Further Important Projects

Handing over Top Lock to the Employment Training team will also allow the Society to tackle a number of essential maintenance jobs at other locks, such as the removal of tree roots and recovery of coping stones, so as to prepare these locks in turn for restoration. We expect then to embark on another major project. This may be on Walbut Lock, also possibly on Bielby swing bridge which is the last of the eight.

DON'T FORGET! PCAS Working Parties are on the **SECOND SUNDAY** of each month and we meet at Canal Head at about 10.15 am. Bring a packed lunch with you.

FUND RAISING

I would like next to mention fund raising. Restoration cannot continue unless the money keeps coming in. The £4000 and more which we are paying towards Thornton gates will wipe out most of our funds! We raised over £380 at our Barbecue and Open Day and money does keep coming in from the Stall, the Information Centre and other activities. However we need to be talking in thousands rather than in hundreds! This order of money CAN be raised but it needs help from MORE of our members. We are thinking of having a Jumble and Car Boot Sale in the autumn and would be pleased to hear from anyone with experience of these.

Meanwhile please keep collecting milk tops, foil, drink cans, pull rings - anything aluminium - bric-à-brac, books (paperbacks and hardbacks), jewellery, old gold, clothes etc, etc. There is a huge range of things that can be sold or used for tombola prizes. We would also be interested in new ways of raising money.

VISIT THE CANAL AND ENJOY ALL IT HAS TO OFFER

Finally I would like to encourage you all to visit the canal more frequently and to enjoy all it has to offer. I hope you all enjoy your summer holidays, especially if you spend them on the waterways.

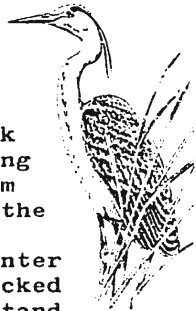


PAUL WADDINGTON

FISHING

YORK AMALGAMATION TAKE OVER THE CANAL FISHING

From the start of the new season in June the York Amalgamation of Anglers has taken over the fishing on the whole length of the Pocklington Canal from British Waterways. We have been in touch with the Amalgamation and we hope to have all details to hand shortly for enquirers. A news item last winter saying that the canal had been extensively restocked with fish was somewhat premature! But we understand the Amalgamation intend to improve the fishing in various ways now they have taken over.



MARQUEES

Please make our marquees known to your friends. Details available from the Secretary.

CANAL HEAD BARBECUE AND OPEN DAY

Around ninety people attended the Barbecue on 20 May and, apart from the chilly wind, it was an excellent evening and made a useful profit for the funds. Our thanks once again to Mr and Mrs Price and Mr and Mrs Herd for all their help and the use of their gardens, houses and various pieces of equipment on both days.

The Open Day on Sunday attracted many visitors to Canal Head, including not a few local people who had never been there before. The boat rides proved most popular and several visitors commented on how splendid it was to see boats on the canal again, bringing it all alive. The Information Centre and the Refreshments did a steady trade as did the stalls and the tombola. Once again we made a useful profit. With more helpers we could have done more and more effectively but, all in all it was a good day and thoroughly enjoyable.

OUR 'FLOAT' IN THE FESTIVAL PARADE

Our events at Canal Head were part of the first weekend of the Pocklington Festival. On the last Saturday we joined the Grand Parade with our model narrowboat duly completed and mounted on the Chairman's car. We would still like to know of further events where we might display her - assuming the Chairman is prepared to polish his car again!



MELBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE CANAL

Elizabeth Woollias writes to say how much her class of eight to ten-year-olds have enjoyed their monthly walks along the Melbourne Arm. They have also been up to inspect progress at Thornton Lock and along the towpath to inspect the seasonal changes. They recently enjoyed a trip on 'Ebenezer' and wrote us some splendid letters about it. We hope later on to see some of their writing and drawing about the canal.

NARROWBOAT 'KADUNA' 60' REACHES MELBOURNE

We are pleased to know that, although the Pocklington locks measure officially 14'3" x 57', the 60' 'Kaduna' managed to manoeuvre her way through to reach Melbourne during the Spring Bank Holiday. The more so as John Meredith had brought her all the way from Wilmcote near Stratford upon Avon and had asked the Society's advice beforehand. We could only advise him to 'have a go' and hope it would! Nice to know it did.

