

June 1975

Editor: G.W.Greenwood, 2 Rossall Close, Hoghton, Preston.

Dear Fellow Member,

The Huddersfield Canal Society has now been in existence for a little over a year and we can all be well pleased with our progress during that time. Membership is in excess of 160 and continues to grow, we have our own exhibition stand and have been present at a number of rallies including The National at Trent Bridge.

The purpose however, of editorials is to provoke comment and discussion. A number of members have expressed the feeling that maybe the majority of the membership are uncertain as to the society's future and feel 'out-of-touch'. This, if time is possible, the result of our infancy but your committee have worked extremely hard to lay a firm foundation for the society and it is from here we must all build.

We are intending to publish the newsletter more frequently and we wait your views for inclusion. Anyway, here's a suggestion that has been made and should provoke a flood of letters. Now that PFCS have achieved their Cheshire Ring objective, it has been suggested that MCS and PFCS amalgamate to pursue the Huddersfield Narrow Project. Let's have a lively discussion on this suggestion so that your committee can form views as to the general consensus of opinion within MCS - letters by return please! Another point for discussion - Should HCS acquire a boat?

Finally, for those who may have inadvertently overlooked their subscription renewal, this is due on the anniversary of joining -- subs please to Val Dewey, 3 Pump Row, High Flatts, Huddersfield -- Adults £1. Juniors 50p and Family £1.50

A.G.M.

This was held on May 2nd in Huddersfield and around 50 persons attended:-

The following were elected:

Chairman :	John Maynard
Vice Chairman:	Brian Beagley
Secretary:	Robert Dewey
Treasurer:	Robert Wilkinson
Committee:	Valerie Dewey (Membership Sec)
	Jean Greenwood
	Gerry Greenwood (Editor)
	Bob Lear
	Tim Noakes
	Derek Walker
	Alan West

Roy Wilson of Kirklees Town Planning Department spoke on Canals in the Environment and revealed the considerable interest which the authority has in the canals of the area. Certainly he gave us no doubt that the authority would like to see the canal improved - unfortunately, in common with all local authorities, money is very short at present.

Mark Blackstone from London is attempting to win an award at the National Rally for coming the furthest distance in an unpowered craft. He intends to canoe from Manchester to York via the Narrow Canal and he even hopes to get through Standedge. BWB are to be asked for permission- their reaction is unknown at present. He will attract publicity from all the media and he has offered publicity for the society. He needs native porters to portage around the obstacles. Offers of help to the secretary please.

It is anticipated that the trip will take from August 2nd to 12th.

NEWS

'Turnbridge':- (see issue 3): This has now been rebuilt and repainted in black and white. It looks exceedingly smart, and congratulations are due to BWB engineers. I'm told that it's even easy to operate... but I haven't tried it out.

Feasability Study:- Being Printed.

Publicity:- A new membership leaflet is now being printed.

T.V.:- BBC TV (Leeds) are contemplating doing 4 x 5 min. programmes on the Narrow Canal - the first being on the Ashton Rally. Hopefully we'll let you know the dates-- but we don't know them yet.

Sales.. The society has been concious of the need to provide new ideas for saleable items at rallies---- Have you any other bright ideas?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 28/29	Ashton Rally (Obtain inf. from B.B.)
Fri.4 July	Evening towpath Walk (Huddersfield Broad Canal, meet at Aspley Marina 7.30pm)
Sun 20 July	Towpath Walk (Eastern half Huddersfield Narrow Canal, meet Marsden tunnel 10.30am)
Sun 3 August	Towpath Walk (Western half Huddersfield Narrow Canal meet Diggle tunnel 10.30 am)

In both the walks of the Narrow Canal arrangements are being made to ferry drivers from the end of the walk to the start. Please arrive at the start of the walk half an hour before advertised time.

22/25 August I.W.A. National Festival - whatever your views on rallies, the festival is important publicity for the society and people all over the country.

Please! This newsletter seems to contain material written by the committee - members are asked to express opinions, relate experiences for inclusion. I'm sure many members could write a paragraph or two on the canal as they remember it-- those of us new to the area would enjoy reading these reminiscences.